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ABSTRACT

This is the fourth annual report on the condition of Connecticut's public school facilities required pursuant to Section 10-220 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The data in this report reflect the responses of school district officials to various survey questions. Summary data are discussed in fairly broad categories--education reference groups (ERGs) and school types (elementary, middle, and high). Following a discussion of current construction activity and cost estimates, over 40 data elements gathered for each school are subdivided into the following groups: general building conditions, appearance and upkeep, building service systems, dedicated specialty areas, size and capacity, and local facility planning and maintenance. The report also offers a comparison to data from previous years. (EV)

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Annual Report on the Condition of Connecticut's Public Schools

Connecticut State Dept of Education
October, 2002

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Foreword

This is the fourth in the series of reports on the Condition of Connecticut's Public School Facilities required pursuant to Section 10-220 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which reads in part:

> Each local or regional board of education shall maintain good public elementary and secondary schools, . . . shall report annually to the Commissioner of Education on the condition of its facilities and the action taken to implement its long-term school building program, which report the commissioner shall use to prepare an annual report that he shall submit in accordance with section 11-4a to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education; . . .

As was done in 2000-01, the detailed school-by-school tables have been omitted from this publication, but have been made available on the State Department of Education's website in pdf format (http://www.state.ct.us/sde/dgm/sfu/reports.htm).

School construction continues to hold a prominent place on the education agenda in many states as it has for the past several years. Here in Connecticut nearly $7 billion of school improvements have been authorized under the state's new progress payment program since it began in 1997. An additional $1 billion will be requested in the 2003 legislative session.

Despite the magnitude of the construction that is underway or being planned, the thousand plus buildings that make up Connecticut's public school infrastructure do not change dramatically as a group in any single year. It often takes three to five years or longer to conceive, authorize, fund, plan and carry out a large project. Nevertheless, the tremendous amount of school construction authorized in recent years is now beginning to show up in the reported school conditions, and the trend toward improving school conditions should continue as more of the work is completed. It should be noted, however, that the current difficult fiscal climate does increase the likelihood that projects will be delayed, scaled back or even cancelled.

The data in this report reflect the responses of school district officials to the various survey questions. As with any survey that calls for judgment on the part of the respondents, there is a subjective element that, in turn, calls for some caution on the part of the reader in drawing conclusions about any single school or town, or in comparing individual schools and/or towns with each other.

Theodore S. Sergi
Commissioner of Education

Connecticut Public School Buildings at a Glance

Selected School Data
(Total Schools = 1,029)

	Elem.	Middle	High	Other
Number of Schools	663	172	171	23
Average Sq. Ft.	56,511	113,867	187,420	28,734
Average Capacity	496	756	1,038	182
Average Enrollment	432	674	919	88

School Capacity

	Elem.	Middle	High	Other
Up to 300	83	10	11	21
301 to 500	300	30	11	1
501 to 750	229	56	39	1
751 to 1,000	42	42	34	0
Greater than 1,000	9	34	76	0

Age of School Facilities
Based on Year of Construction

	Elem.	Middle	High	Other
Up to 10 years	23	20	17	2
11 to 25 years	21	13	8	1
26 to 50 years	379	112	130	8
Greater than 50 years	240	27	16	12

Age of School Facilities
Based on Last Renovation

	Elem.	Middle	High	Other
Since 1991	353	115	123	10
1981 - 1990	94	14	17	3
Prior to 1981	216	43	31	10

Improvements in Technology

* In 1998, only 37 percent of schools reported reasonable levels of capacity for technology. In 2001 the percentage had risen to 78.

* In 1998, 41 percent of schools were reporting reasonably adequate use of technology in program areas. That figure grew to 71 percent by 2001.

Overall Facility Conditions

* In 1998, the percentage of survey items reported as reasonably adequate or better was 60.7. In 2001, the number grew to 65.6 percent.

School Construction Projects Authorized
July 1, 1996 through June 30, 2002

	New		Renovation		Other	
	#	Costs*	#	Costs*	#	Costs*
Elem.	27	714	49	717	577	509
Middle	17	588	20	444	153	254
High	10	662	22	954	241	663
Magnets	15	464	7	128	2	3
Voc-Tech	0	0	7	354	1	9
Total	69	2428	105	2597	974	1438

* costs in millions

School Construction Projects Authorized
July 1, 1996 through June 30, 2002

	New Avg Cost*	Renovation Avg Cost*	Other Avg Cost*
Elem.	26	15	1
Middle	35	22	2
High	66	43	3
Magnets	31	18	2
Voc-Tech	N/A	51	9
State Avg.	35	25	1

* costs in millions

Section 1
Current Construction Activity and Cost Estimates

The State of Connecticut continues to maintain one of the strongest construction financing programs in the country. In addition to the primary benefit of 20 percent to 80 percent state assistance based on a wealth driven sliding scale, other provisions include:

- 100 percent state funding for interdistrict magnet schools
- 100 percent construction funding for State Board authorized regional special education and vocational agriculture centers
- 100 percent funding for state vocational-technical high school projects
- releasing the state share of costs through progress payments over the life of the project, reducing the amount that local districts have to borrow up-front and eliminating the need for state interest subsidy grants
- increased state participation in the cost of renovations when an older building is completely retrofitted to like-new condition
- bonus provisions increasing the basic reimbursement rate as follows:
  - 10 percent for regional districts
  - 10 percent for a cooperative school used by two or more districts
  - up to 10 percent for the construction of additional space for out-of-district students participating in the state's voluntary choice programs
  - 10 percent for lighthouse schools
  - 5 percent for new school readiness space
  - 5 percent for class size reduction space and early reading program space

Combined with the primary construction needs resulting from a decade of enrollment growth and the aging of existing facilities, these special funding provisions have contributed to record levels of school construction authorizations in Connecticut in recent years. Including the $1.9 billion authorized this past June, in excess of $7 billion has been brought forward since 1997. Eighty-five to ninety percent of that amount is targeted for major renovations, building additions or new schools.

The annual state appropriation for school construction now exceeds $500 million and is still growing.

Section 1
Current Construction Activity and Cost Estimates
(continued)

It is anticipated that the annual amount of state grant payments will reach $700 million by the end of the next biennium. Where it goes from there is not certain, but the leveling off of enrollment and the end of the very costly build out for high schools should allow total annual project authorizations to revert to pre-1999 levels within a few years.

Projects to accommodate the enrollment shift of the baby boom echo generation to senior high schools continue to dominate the annual applications authorized by the legislature. Costs in excess of $50 million for a single project – whether a new school or a total renovation/expansion of an existing school – are not uncommon. However, these higher cost projects often represent the single largest commitment in a town's history, creating strong opposition among certain groups of taxpayers and making it more difficult to obtain local funding approval. Consequently, delays and the scaling back of some projects and town-wide construction initiatives are becoming more common and have been keeping anticipated state grant payments somewhat lower than the total amount of authorized projects would suggest.

Table 1 summarizes the approximate numbers of facilities that have been constructed or renovated in the past decade. While only 7 percent of existing facilities were built during the past ten years, 38 percent underwent significant building additions and renovations during that period. Another 14 percent are undergoing renovation, authorized to go forward, or are awaiting legislative authorization. There are also 74 new schools (not yet in the existing school count) in some phase of the application/construction process.

Table 1

09/2002

Summary of Public School Facilities Renovations * and New Construction

Schools by Education Reference Group (ERG)

	Total	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	Other
Total public school facilities reported (including magnets, charters, alternative schools and special facilities.)	1,029	53	136	106	132	46	146	57	156	180	17
Facilities constructed during past decade. (% of total)	67 7%	3 6%	9 7%	5 5%	10 8%	4 9%	5 4%	7 12%	6 4%	18 10%	0 0%
Facilities with major renovation projects underway, authorized, or pending legislative approval.	144 14%	12 23%	16 12%	23 22%	13 10%	7 15%	27 18%	2 4%	14 9%	22 12%	8 47%
Facilities that have had major renovations after 1990.	390 38%	30 57%	59 43%	39 37%	57 43%	27 59%	41 28%	22 39%	62 40%	50 28%	3 18%
Facilities reporting last major renovation or constructed within 11 to 20 years.	128 12%	3 6%	23 17%	15 14%	13 10%	6 13%	13 9%	8 14%	24 15%	19 10%	4 24%
Facilities with no major renovations reported in past 20 years.	300 29%	5 9%	29 21%	24 23%	39 30%	2 4%	60 41%	18 32%	50 32%	71 40%	2 12%
Number of new facility projects underway, authorized, or pending legislative approval (not included in 1029 existing facility count)	74	6	8	10	7	2	7	3	14	17	0

* In most cases we can confirm from school construction records that the renovation status reported by a district is accurate. In some instances our records show that the work done may not have been extensive enough to upgrade all facets of a building, but the district lists it as a renovated facility. We have accepted the district's judgement in such cases.

Section 1
Current Construction Activity and Cost Estimates
(continued)

Of the existing schools, about three in ten (300) have not undergone a major facility renovation since 1980, if ever. While it is possible that some of these facilities have been maintained in top condition through a series of smaller projects and effective long-term maintenance programs, it is more likely that over the next decade, these will be the buildings that come due for major retrofitting or in some cases replacement. Based on current construction costs, it would likely cost an additional $4 to $5 billion to renovate and expand most of these facilities and replace some of them.

If districts were to seek authorization for this work over a five-year period, it could add $1 billion in new authorizations each year. If, on the other hand, projects were to be submitted over a ten-year period, the annual amount would be closer to $500 million, unadjusted for inflation. The number of major construction projects for the ten-year period 1989 to 1999 averaged about 40 per year. While this points more to a ten-year timeframe, it must be noted that for 2000 and 2001, districts submitted nearly double the usual number of major projects. Unfortunately, there are too many factors that can impact local and state decision-making to forecast with any certainty the rate of construction activity out five to ten years. For example, any drastic change in economic conditions affecting state or local tax bases would impact those decisions. The preliminary listing for 2002-03 totals just under $1 billion, and includes 33 major projects, a sharp decline from the previous two years.

The table also breaks out facilities within Education Reference Groups (ERG). (See Appendix A for a complete listing of towns by ERG. ERGs cluster similar towns for comparative purposes based on a series of socio-economic factors. ERG A reflects towns with the highest resources and lowest needs, with ERG I being the neediest.) ERGs A and E report the highest percentage of facilities that have been constructed or renovated most recently and conversely the lowest percentage of facilities having gone without major renovations for more than 20 years.

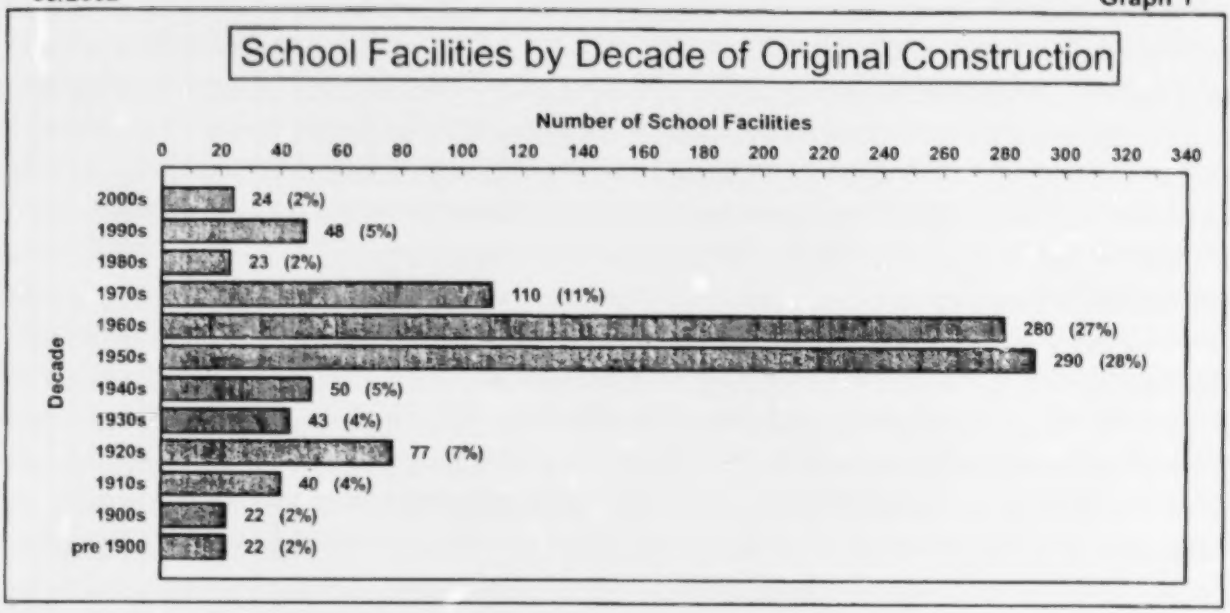
ERGs F and I, on the other hand, report the highest percentages (41 and 40 percent respectively) of facilities not renovated since 1980. It is worth noting, however, that of the 71 facilities so reported in ERG I, about half are already included in long-range plans for renovation or replacement. For example, New Haven is now well into the implementation phase of a plan to upgrade all of its facilities. Hartford has completed such a study and is entering the design and implementation phase.

Section 2
General Building Conditions

Not surprisingly, most public school facilities do not change dramatically from one year to the next. It tends to take several years for a major project to be conceived, authorized, planned and carried out. This is particularly true of the major building characteristics such as age, use, date of last expansion/renovation and so on.

Graph 1 shows the number and percentage of schools built by decade as well as those built prior to 1900. The vast majority of schools were built from 1950 through about the middle of the 1970s. Two of every three schools currently in use were built during this baby boom period. Fewer than one in ten schools have been built since then, although there are currently 74 new school building projects that are pending or in progress.

Graph 1


School Facilities by Decade of Original Construction
Number of School Facilities
0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 180 200 220 240 260 280 300 320 340
Decade
2000s 24 (2%)
1990s 48 (5%)
1980s 23 (2%)
1970s 110 (11%)
1960s 280 (27%)
1950s 290 (28%)
1940s 50 (5%)
1930s 43 (4%)
1920s 77 (7%)
1910s 40 (4%)
1900s 22 (2%)
pre 1900 22 (2%)

Section 2
General Building Conditions (continued)

Table 2A looks at the age of elementary, middle and high school facilities by Education Reference Group (ERG). The average for elementary schools is fairly consistent across all ERGs, except ERG I which carries an average age of 62 years. The average age for high schools (39) and middle schools (38 years) is about 12 years less than for elementary facilities and fits with the baby boom generation reaching those grade levels many years after reaching elementary school age.

The year of initial construction may not be a reliable indicator of a building's current condition. For many facilities, the timing of the latest major renovation is probably a more useful measure of its present condition. Table 2A also provides the average age of the last reported renovation for each facility by school type and ERG.

Average Age of School Facilities Based on Original Year of Constructio and the Year of Most Recent Major Renovatio

Elementary Schools

ERG	Number of Schools	Average Age of Schools	Average Age Since Last Major Renovation
Statewide	663	51	21
Group A	32	48	12
Group B	89	47	15
Group C	64	49	17
Group D	82	44	19
Group E	27	46	11
Group F	96	51	28
Group G	37	53	19
Group H	105	47	19
Group I	131	62	28

Middle Schools

ERG	Number of Schools	Average Age of Schools	Average Age Since Last Major Renovation
Statewide	172	38	16
Group A	12	40	6
Group B	28	39	12
Group C	21	40	18
Group D	22	35	17
Group E	9	50	10
Group F	24	44	16
Group G	9	30	17
Group H	26	36	20
Group I	21	32	19

High Schools

ERG	Number of Schools	Average Age of Schools	Average Age Since Last Major Renovation
Statewide	171	39	16
Group A	9	37	17
Group B	18	42	11
Group C	21	35	14
Group D	20	37	13
Group E	10	45	9
Group F	23	40	17
Group G	11	44	16
Group H	18	43	18
Group I	24	35	19
VT Schools	17	41	17

Statewide

ERG	Number of Schools	Average Age of Schools	Average Age Since Last Major Renovation
Statewide *	1006	47	19
Group A	53	44	11
Group B	135	44	14
Group C	106	45	16
Group D	124	41	18
Group E	46	46	11
Group F	143	48	24
Group G	57	47	18
Group H	149	45	19
Group I	176	55	26
VT Schools	17	41	17

* Does not include alternative/other school data

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Section 3
Appearance and Upkeep

The eight facility appearance and upkeep items surveyed continue to receive the highest ratings as a group and, for the most part, individually. However, there is a small decline in the overall ratings for this cluster from 79.9 to 79.0 percent of responses rated reasonably adequate or better. This change is almost entirely attributable to downgraded ratings of school building facades. Reduced ratings for outward appearance were reported for 192 buildings – almost one out of five. The percentage of buildings reporting good or better building façade appearance and upkeep dropped from 84.9 percent to 74.6 percent. (See Table 3A.)

A rating of less than adequate was assigned to appearance and upkeep items 3.5 percent of the time, down from 3.8 percent last year and 5.0 percent in the original survey. With the exception of building facades and cafeterias, facilities appearance and upkeep continues to show slight improvement.

Districts in ERG I and the vocational-technical schools reported higher numbers of schools with better than average conditions than in prior years, although ERG I schools are still the lowest rated overall. It seems likely that some of the reported gains are attributable to the availability of additional state funding in both the vocational-technical schools and the priority school districts to address deferred maintenance and minor capital repairs.

Code compliance showed the most improvement from the prior report and has registered the highest gains since 1998, the first year of reporting. However, code compliance was again reported as a problem in 7.7 percent of schools.

The item-by-item tables on pages 10-17 include charts that allow comparisons of appearance and upkeep results for elementary, middle and high schools. For each item, the accompanying charts show very similar patterns regardless of school level, an indication that appearance and upkeep conditions are unrelated to the grade range of the facility.

09/2002

Percentage of Schools Rated
Reasonably Adequate or Better By Survey Item
1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 With Cumulative Change

Table 3A

School Maintenance Features

Survey Item Description:	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Cumulative Change
Building Facade	82.4%	83.8%	84.9%	74.6%	-7.8
Grounds/Landscaping	77.8%	79.2%	80.7%	79.9%	2.1
Classrooms	75.5%	76.6%	79.5%	79.8%	4.3
Lavatories/Fountains	70.0%	71.4%	73.2%	73.6%	3.6
Entrance/Hallways	83.0%	83.2%	84.5%	83.6%	0.6
Lighting/Fixtures	79.1%	81.7%	83.8%	84.1%	5.0
Cafeteria	78.5%	77.5%	78.3%	78.9%	0.4
Code Compliance	69.7%	70.0%	74.1%	77.5%	7.8
Average for School Maintenance Group	77.0%	77.9%	79.9%	79.0%	2.0

09/2002

Condition of Facilities: Appearance and Upkeep
Summary of Responses by Survey Item
Total Schools (N = 1029)

Table 3B

Number and Percentage of Schools Reporting a Building Feature to be:

	Well Above Adequate		Reasonably Adequate		Minimally Adequate		Less Than Adequate		Not Included in Facility	
Survey Item Description:	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Building Facade	220	21.4%	548	53.3%	230	22.4%	31	3.0%	0	0.0%
Grounds/Landscaping	238	23.1%	584	56.8%	167	16.2%	40	3.9%	0	0.0%
Classrooms	230	22.4%	591	57.4%	189	18.4%	19	1.8%	0	0.0%
Lavatories/Fountains	199	19.3%	558	54.2%	234	22.7%	38	3.7%	0	0.0%
Entrance/Hallways	318	30.9%	542	52.7%	142	13.8%	27	2.6%	0	0.0%
Lighting/Fixtures	300	29.2%	565	54.9%	137	13.3%	27	2.6%	0	0.0%
Cafeteria	287	27.9%	525	51.0%	112	10.9%	29	2.8%	76	7.4%
Code Compliance	357	34.7%	440	42.8%	153	14.9%	79	7.7%	0	0.0%
Total Responses	2149	26.1%	4353	52.9%	1364	16.6%	290	3.5%	76	0.9%

09/2002

Condition of Facilities: Appearance and Upkeep
Summary of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate Or Better by Education Reference Group (ERG)

Table 3C

Education Reference Group (ERG)	Total Schools	Count of Schools Based on Number of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate or Better									At least 5 features rated reasonably adequate/better	
		8 of 8 Items	7 of 8 Items	6 of 8 Items	5 of 8 Items	4 of 8 Items	3 of 8 Items	2 of 8 Items	1 of 8 Items	0 of 8 Items	Schools	%
A	53	27	11	7	1	3	1	1	2	0	46	86.8%
B	136	86	29	7	4	4	2	2	0	2	126	92.6%
C	106	49	26	11	3	2	4	1	3	7	89	84.0%
D	132	54	25	15	9	5	9	4	5	6	103	78.0%
E	46	24	10	2	4	2	1	2	0	1	40	87.0%
F	146	75	14	19	7	6	4	6	11	4	115	78.8%
G	57	29	11	6	1	6	1	1	1	1	47	82.5%
H	156	62	36	22	13	8	0	2	7	6	133	85.3%
I	180	59	28	12	16	14	18	17	9	7	115	63.9%
VT Sch.	17	10	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	100.0%
Total Schools	1029	475	194	104	58	50	40	36	38	34	831	80.8%
Percent of Total Schools	100%	46%	19%	10%	6%	5%	4%	3%	4%	3%		
Cumulative Percent		46%	65%	75%	81%	86%	90%	93%	97%	100%		

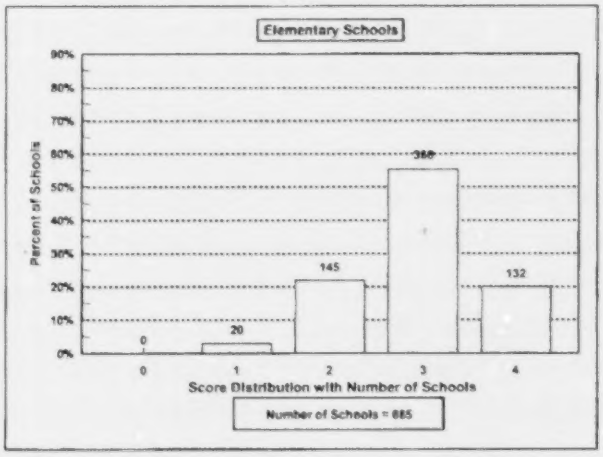
Building Facade:

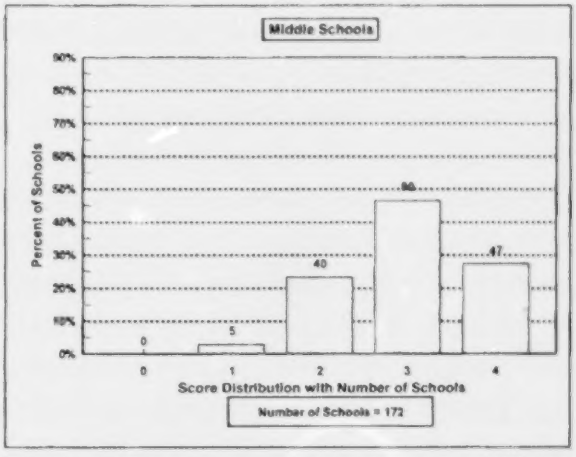
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

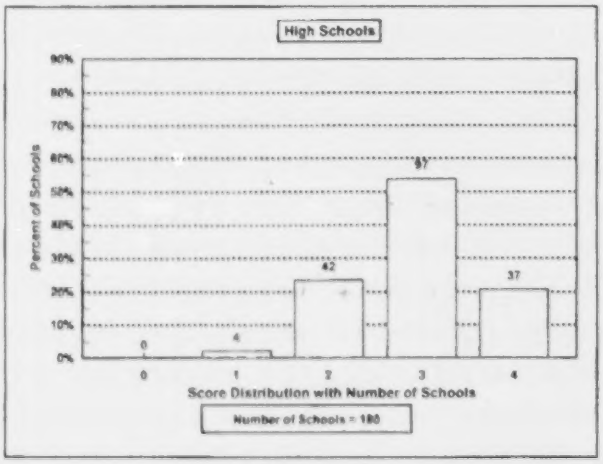
The facility is in sound condition, and there are no broken windows. The exterior is clean, bright, neat in appearance and free of graffiti, damage and vandalism. Instances of graffiti, damage and vandalism are promptly corrected.

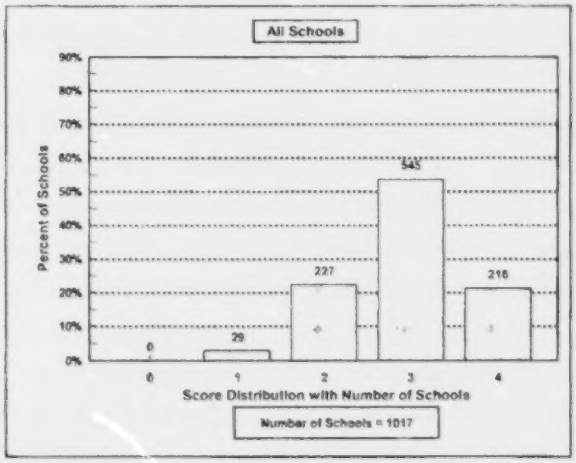
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	20	5	4	29
2	Minimally adequate	145	40	42	227
3	Reasonably adequate	368	80	97	545
4	Well above adequate	132	47	37	216
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Building Facade	3.0%	2.9%	2.2%	2.9%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Building Facade	75.2%	73.8%	74.4%	74.8%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









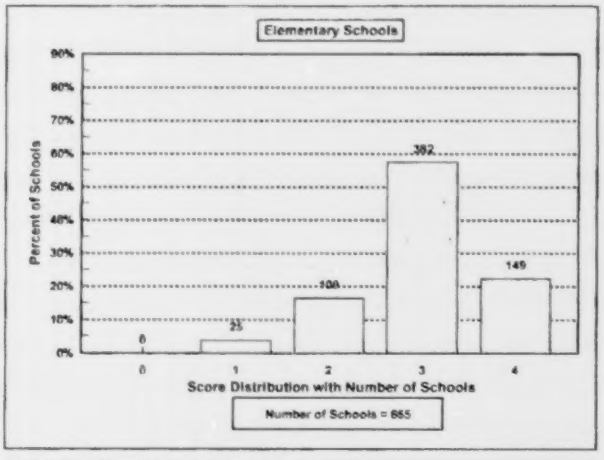
Grounds/Landscaping:

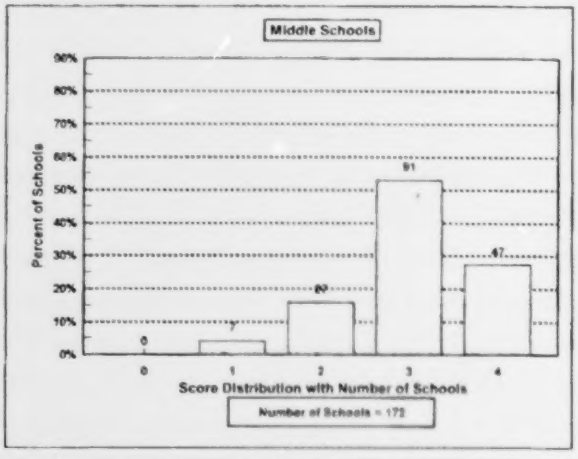
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

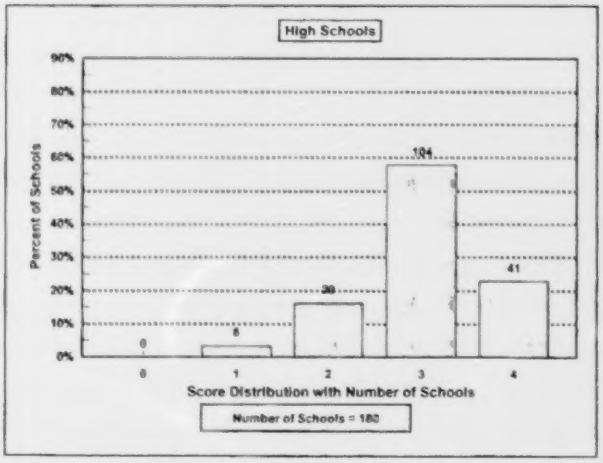
Areas are routinely kept free of litter and debris, lawns and shrubs are regularly trimmed, and all lawns/grass areas are fully covered. There should be some provision for green space and plantings that are appropriate to the site.

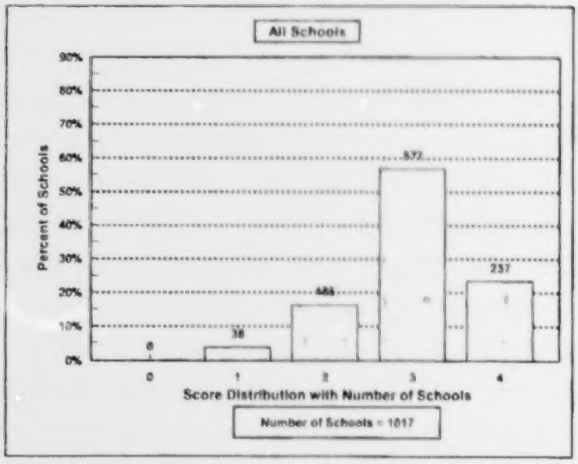
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	25	7	6	38
2	Minimally adequate	109	27	29	165
3	Reasonably adequate	382	91	104	577
4	Well above adequate	149	47	41	237
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Grounds/Landscaping	3.8%	4.1%	3.3%	3.7%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Grounds/Landscaping	79.8%	80.2%	80.6%	80.0%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









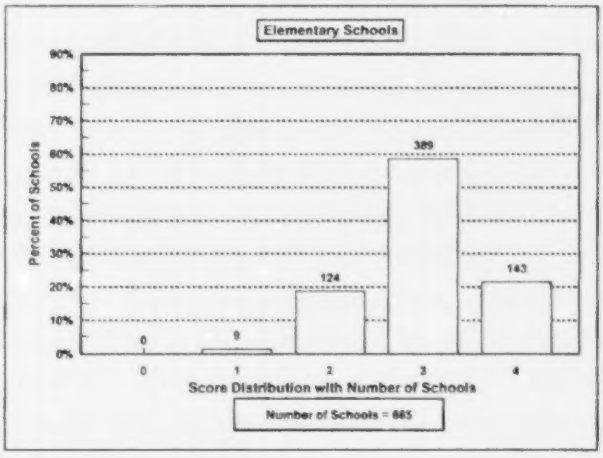
Classrooms:

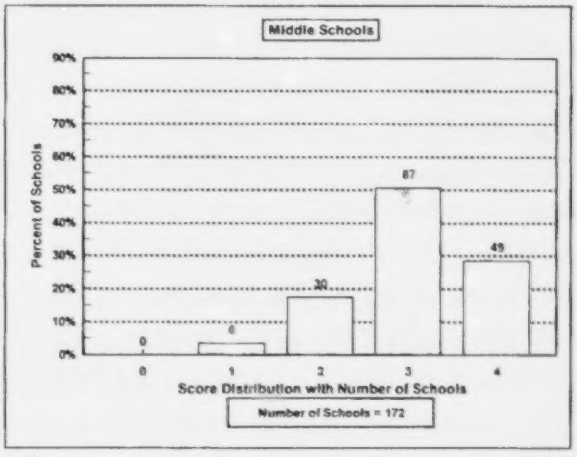
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

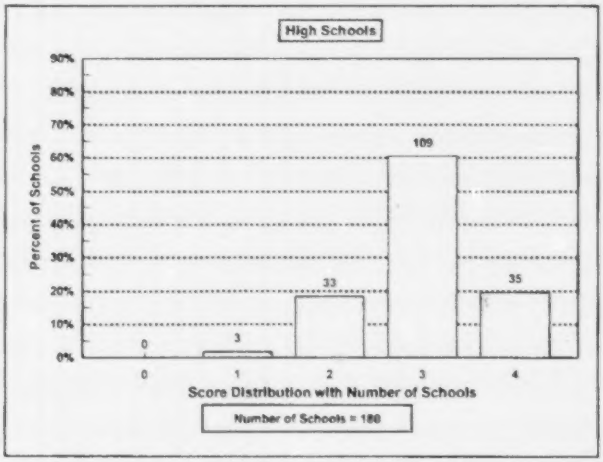
The classrooms are adequate in number and size for the programs offered. All casework, ceilings, walls and floor coverings are clean, neat and without damage. All windows are operable, and the rooms are regularly cleaned. There should be ample closet/ shelf space for storage of instructional materials, and bulletin boards, chalkboards, etc. sufficient to display student work and other materials for instructional use.

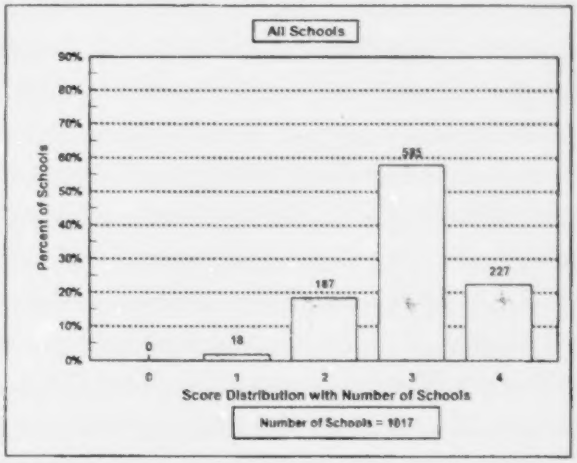
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	9	6	3	18
2	Minimally adequate	124	30	33	187
3	Reasonably adequate	389	87	109	585
4	Well above adequate	143	49	35	227
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Classrooms	1.4%	3.5%	1.7%	1.8%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Classrooms	80.0%	79.1%	80.0%	79.8%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









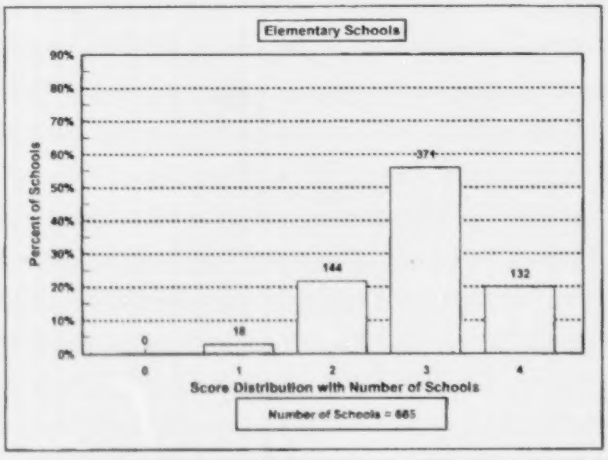
Lavatories/Fountains:

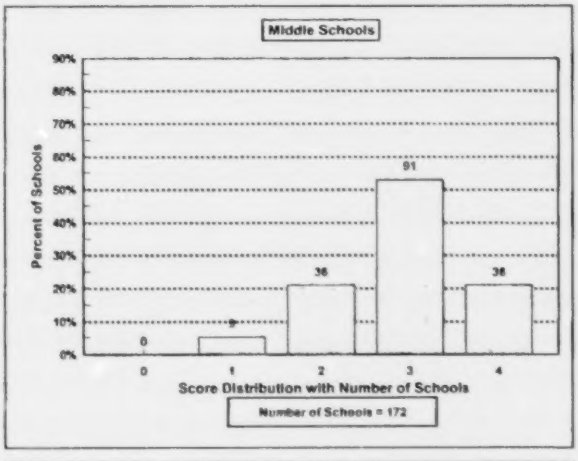
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

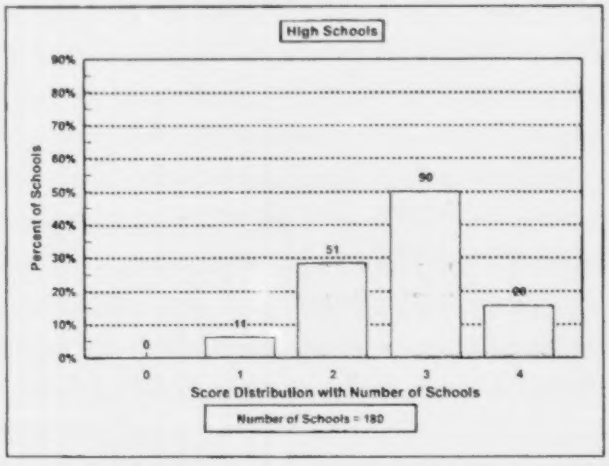
There is an adequate supply of safe drinking water, and all fountains are operational. All lavatories are clean, partitions, doors and fixtures are intact and functional to provide privacy. Adequate supplies are provided.

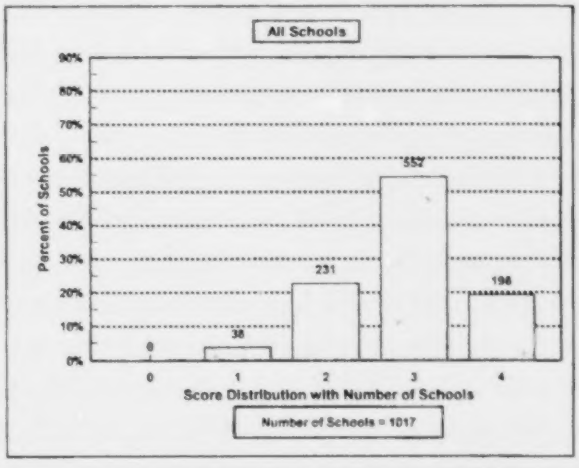
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	18	9	11	38
2	Minimally adequate	144	36	51	231
3	Reasonably adequate	371	91	90	552
4	Well above adequate	132	36	28	196
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Lavatories/Fountains	2.7%	5.2%	6.1%	3.7%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Lavatories/Fountains	75.6%	73.8%	65.6%	73.5%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









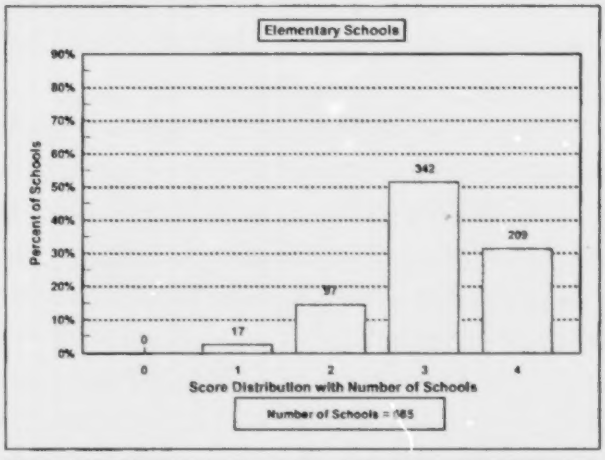
Entrance/Hallways:

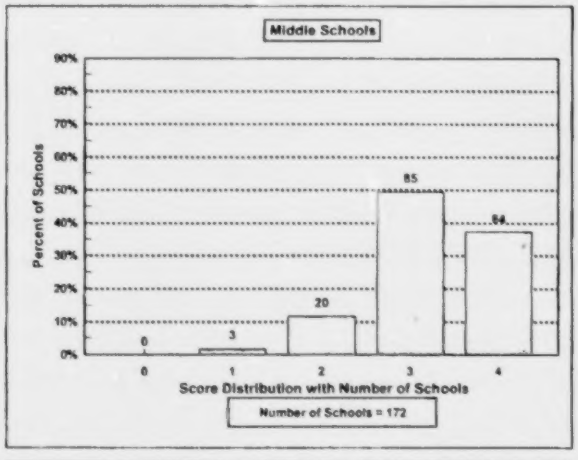
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

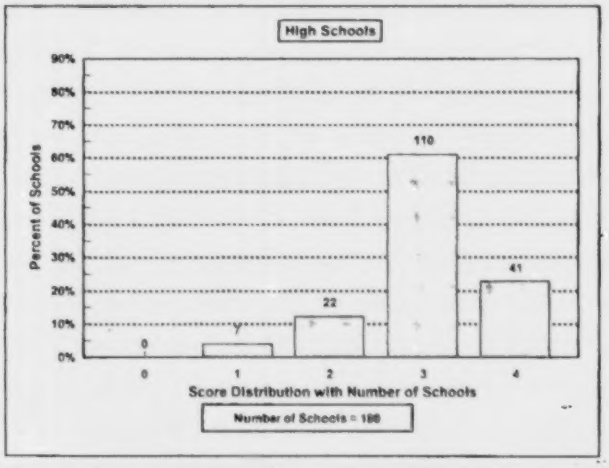
Main entrance is highly visible to visitors. Entry way is attractive, clean, neat and welcomes people to the school. The area is free of graffiti, damage and vandalism. Lockers are uniform and functioning. All surface coverings (walls, ceilings and floors) are clean, neat and uniform.

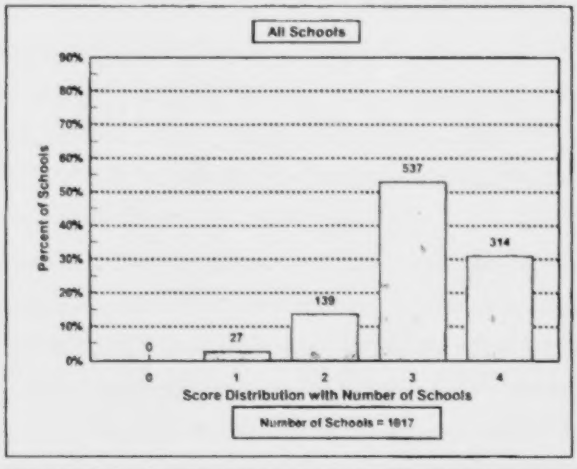
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	17	3	7	27
2	Minimally adequate	97	20	22	139
3	Reasonably adequate	342	85	110	537
4	Well above adequate	209	64	41	314
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Entrance/Hallways	2.6%	1.7%	3.9%	2.7%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Entrance/Hallways	82.9%	86.6%	83.9%	83.7%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









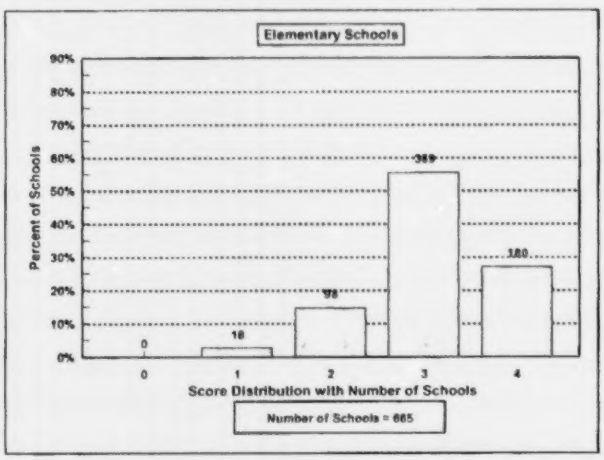
Lighting/Fixtures:

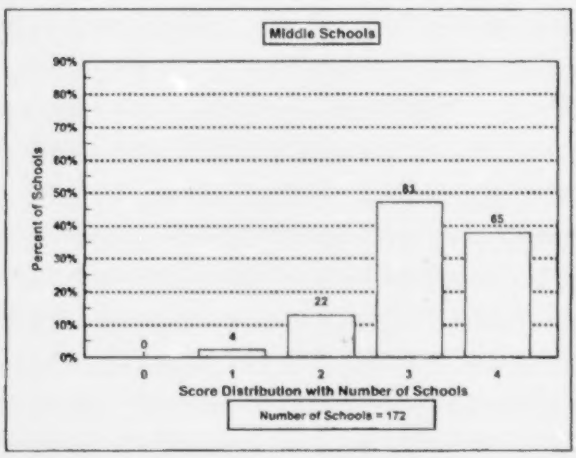
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

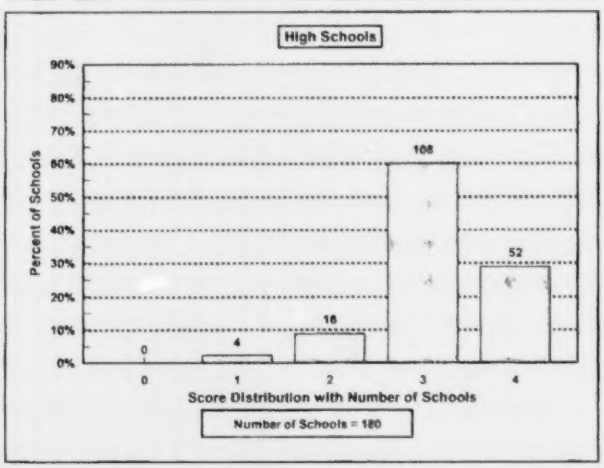
Fixtures, including emergency lighting, are working and, when necessary, are repaired without undo delay. The fixtures are energy efficient and are controlled by an energy management control system.

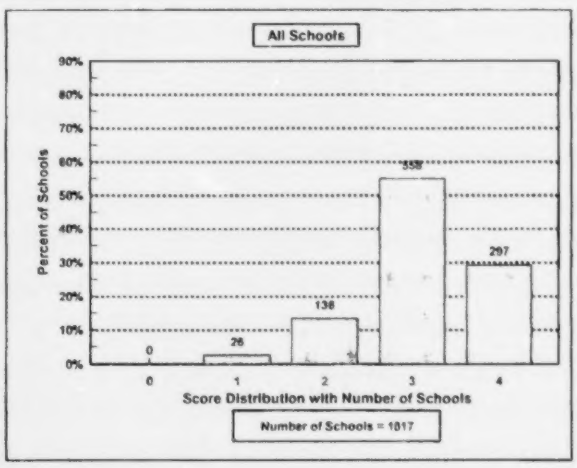
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	18	4	4	26
2	Minimally adequate	98	22	16	136
3	Reasonably adequate	369	81	108	558
4	Well above adequate	180	65	52	297
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
	Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:				
	Lighting/Fixtures	2.7%	2.3%	2.2%	2.6%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
	Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:				
	Lighting/Fixtures	82.6%	84.9%	88.9%	84.1%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









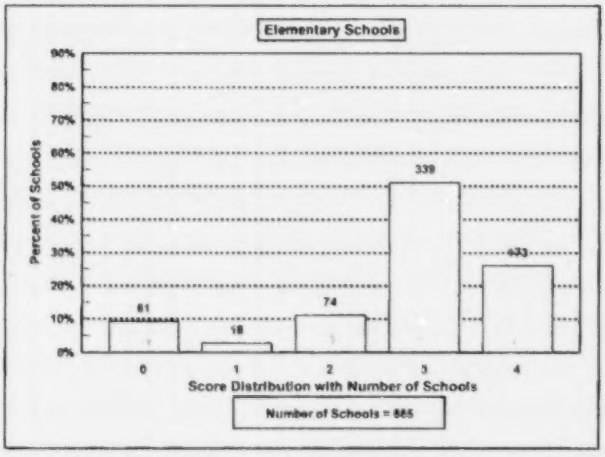
Cafeteria:

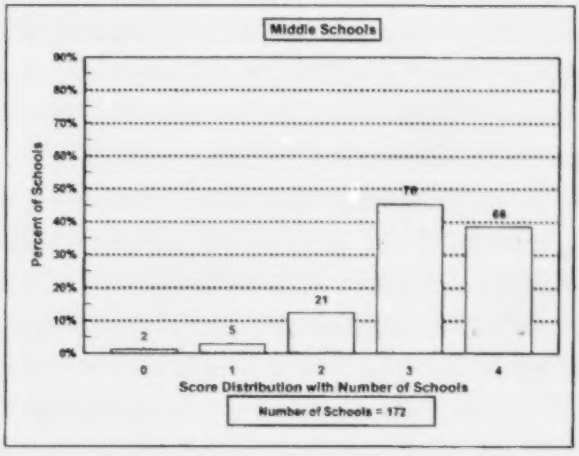
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

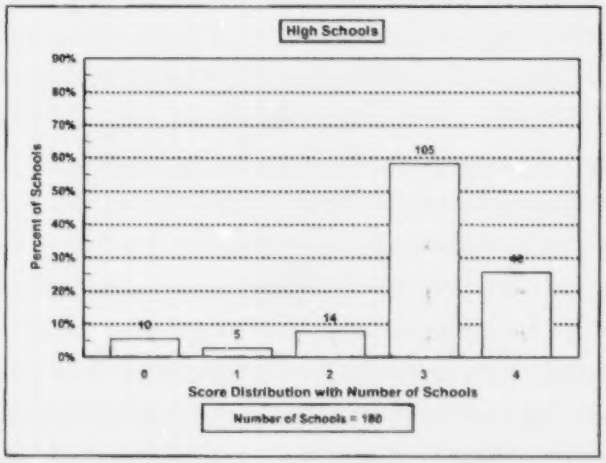
The cafeteria is clean, neat, bright and free from graffiti, damage and vandalism.

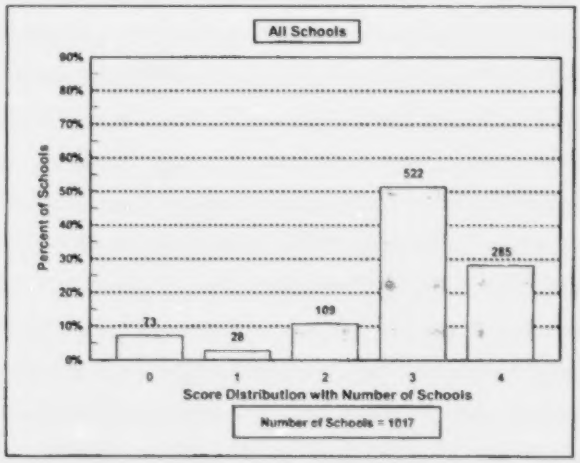
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	61	2	10	73
1	Less than adequate	18	5	5	28
2	Minimally adequate	74	21	14	109
3	Reasonably adequate	339	78	105	522
4	Well above adequate	173	66	46	285
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Cafeteria	11.9%	4.1%	8.3%	9.9%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Cafeteria	77.0%	83.7%	83.9%	79.4%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









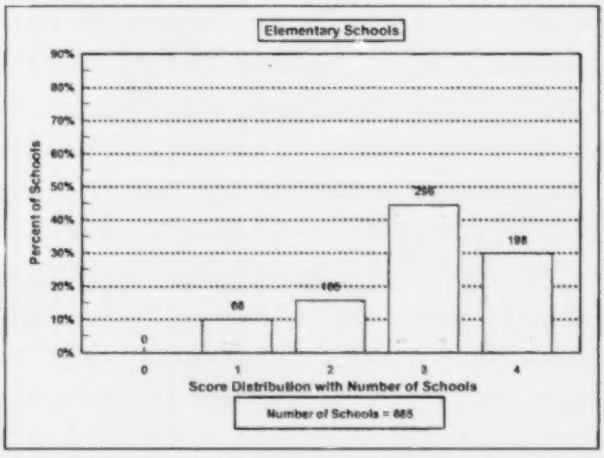
Code Compliance:

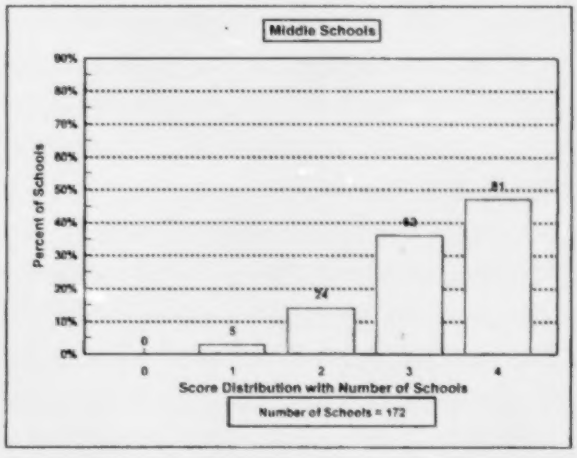
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

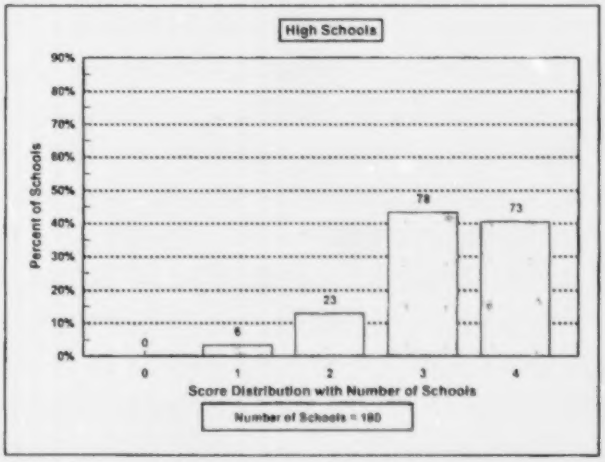
All programs, including outdoor athletic facilities and play areas, are fully accessible to persons with disabilities. The entire facility is in full compliance with State building, fire, OSHA and health codes. There are automatic fire sprinklers throughout the facility. (Although not mandated by code, sprinklers and detection devices would be a significant component of a 4 rating on this item.)

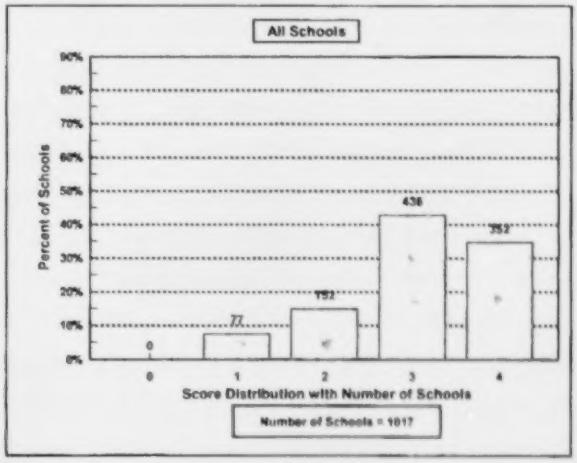
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	66	5	6	77
2	Minimally adequate	105	24	23	152
3	Reasonably adequate	296	62	78	436
4	Well above adequate	198	81	73	352
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Code Compliance	9.9%	2.9%	3.3%	7.6%
	All appearance/upkeep items	4.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.4%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Code Compliance	74.3%	83.1%	83.9%	77.5%
	All appearance/upkeep items	78.4%	80.7%	80.1%	79.1%









Section 4
Service Systems

As shown in Table 4A below, service systems have continuously improved since the first survey was taken in 1998. While improvement is reflected in all areas, Technology Infrastructure has been the biggest gainer. Three out of four schools were reported in 2001 to have reasonably adequate or well above adequate wiring and related accommodations for technology, up from about one of three schools in 1998. These gains are certainly understandable given the increased level of school construction plus a total of $30 million of specifically earmarked state technology infrastructure funding from 1997 through 2000. The Federal E-Rate program also added to the services available to districts for technology over the past few years. An additional $4.5 million in state funds will be awarded this year. When combined with new construction, this should help continue progress in this area.

All other categories also showed improvement. Again, this is attributable in part to the ongoing construction, but also to the targeted funding for the state's neediest school districts over the past several fiscal years to make building improvements not normally covered by state construction grants.

School-wide air conditioning systems, despite gains, are available in less than one in four buildings. This is still an area that will need to be addressed in any plans that involve extended year, full-year or expanded summer programs. Better air conditioning capacity may also help with indoor air quality and other environmental issues.

Despite gains, schools in ERG I still continue to lag facilities in the other groups by a considerable margin. Although the percentage of ERG I schools reporting most service systems to be reasonably adequate or better has increased from 37.7 percent in 1998 to 56.7 percent in 2001, that still lags the state figure of 69.0 percent.

09/2002

Percentage of Schools Rated
Reasonably Adequate or Better By Survey Item
1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 With Cumulative Change

Table 4A

School Service Systems

Survey Item Description:	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Cumulative Change
Internal Communications	59.9%	61.9%	65.9%	70.7%	10.8
Technology Infrastructure	37.3%	45.3%	65.5%	77.6%	40.3
Air Conditioning	13.8%	16.3%	19.7%	24.0%	10.2
Heating	60.3%	64.4%	67.1%	70.8%	10.5
Interior Lighting	78.6%	80.9%	83.1%	84.5%	5.9
Exterior Lighting	62.2%	63.8%	67.0%	68.6%	6.4
Roadways and Walks	67.2%	67.5%	70.4%	70.7%	3.5
Plumbing/Lavatories	63.1%	64.6%	66.8%	68.9%	5.8
Average for School Service Systems Group	55.3%	58.1%	63.2%	67.0%	11.7

09/2002

Condition of Facilities: Building Service Systems
Summary of Responses by Survey Item
Total Schools (N = 1029)

Table 4B

Number and Percentage of Schools Reporting a Building Feature to be:

	Well Above Adequate		Reasonably Adequate		Minimally Adequate		Less Than Adequate		Not Included in Facility	
Survey Item Description:	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Internal Communications	302	29.3%	426	41.4%	223	21.7%	67	6.5%	11	1.1%
Technology Infrastructure	353	34.3%	445	43.2%	160	15.5%	48	4.7%	23	2.2%
Air Conditioning	110	10.7%	137	13.3%	132	12.8%	173	16.8%	477	46.4%
Heating	201	19.5%	528	51.3%	255	24.8%	45	4.4%	0	0.0%
Interior Lighting	327	31.8%	543	52.8%	134	13.0%	25	2.4%	0	0.0%
Exterior Lighting	206	20.0%	500	48.6%	243	23.6%	80	7.8%	0	0.0%
Roadways and Walks	240	23.3%	487	47.3%	221	21.5%	81	7.9%	0	0.0%
Plumbing/Lavatories	193	18.8%	516	50.1%	268	26.0%	52	5.1%	0	0.0%
Total Responses	1932	23.5%	3582	43.5%	1636	19.9%	571	6.9%	511	6.2%

09/2002

Condition of Facilities: Building Service Systems
Summary of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate Or Better by Education Reference Group (ERG)

Table 4C

Education Reference Group (ERG)	Total Schools	Count of Schools Based on Number of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate or Better									At least 5 features rated reasonably adequate/better	
		8 of 8 Items	7 of 8 Items	6 of 8 Items	5 of 8 Items	4 of 8 Items	3 of 8 Items	2 of 8 Items	1 of 8 Items	0 of 8 Items	Schools	%
A	53	13	17	6	5	6	3	3	0	0	41	77.4%
B	136	25	52	23	17	7	7	2	2	1	117	86.0%
C	106	13	26	13	19	16	6	3	3	7	71	67.0%
D	132	24	27	19	14	12	16	4	4	12	84	63.6%
E	46	7	11	9	4	6	4	3	1	1	31	67.4%
F	146	13	41	21	20	18	6	7	18	2	95	65.1%
G	57	11	14	7	12	3	2	5	1	2	44	77.2%
H	156	18	31	24	35	13	12	14	2	7	108	69.2%
I	180	34	30	18	20	26	22	18	10	2	102	56.7%
VT Sch.	17	1	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	100.0%
Total Schools	1029	159	261	144	146	107	78	59	41	34	710	69.0%
Percent of Total Schools	100%	15%	25%	14%	14%	10%	8%	6%	4%	3%		
Cumulative Percent		15%	41%	55%	69%	79%	87%	93%	97%	100%		

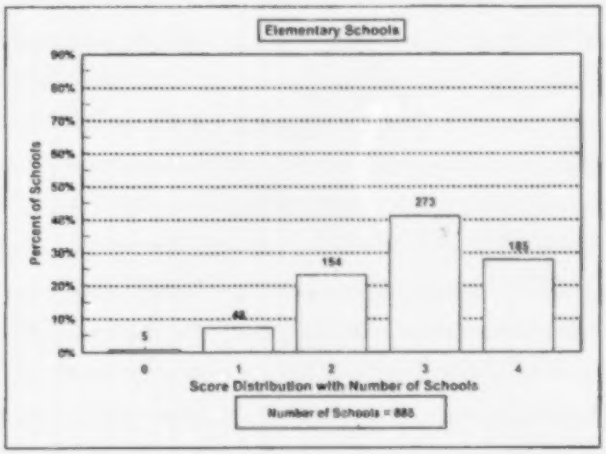
Internal Communications:

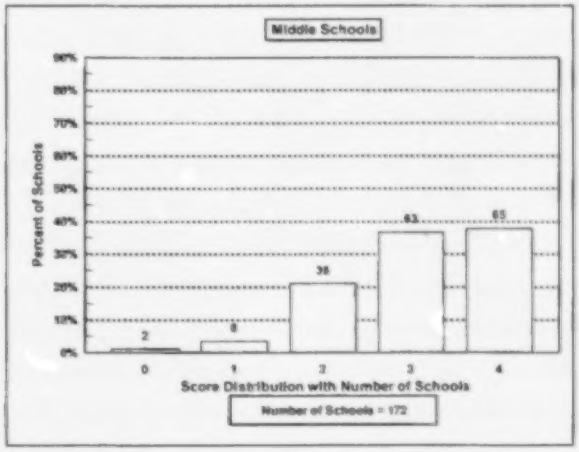
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

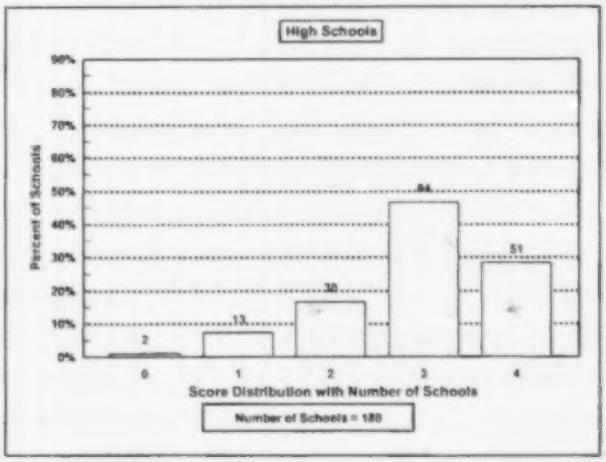
The facility has an intercom system enabling communication with all academic and administrative areas of the school individually and collectively. All classrooms have capacity to communicate with the principal's office and have access to an outside telephone line.

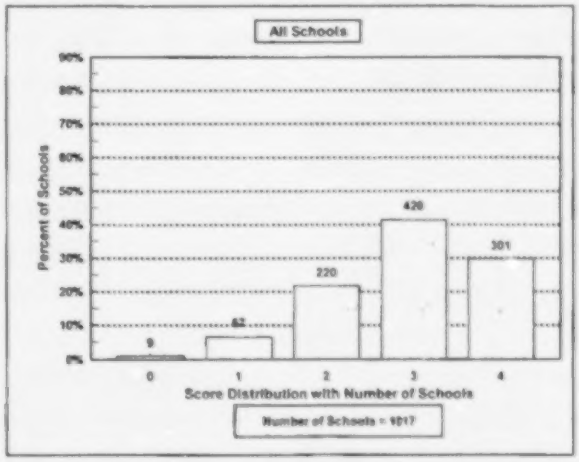
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	5	2	2	9
1	Less than adequate	48	6	13	67
2	Minimally adequate	154	36	30	220
3	Reasonably adequate	273	63	84	420
4	Well above adequate	185	65	51	301
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Internal Communications	8.0%	4.7%	8.3%	7.5%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Internal Communications	68.9%	74.4%	75.0%	70.9%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









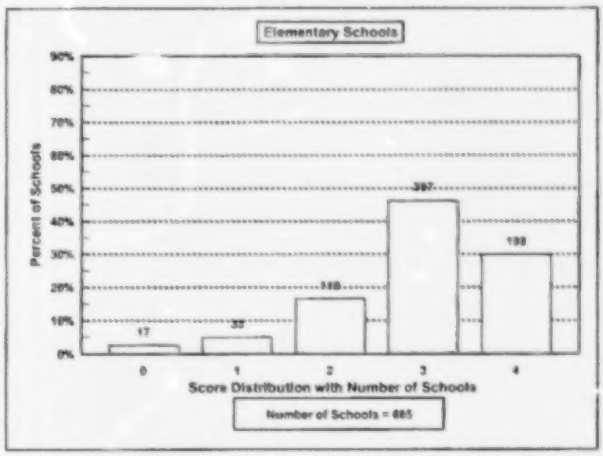
Technology Infrastructure:

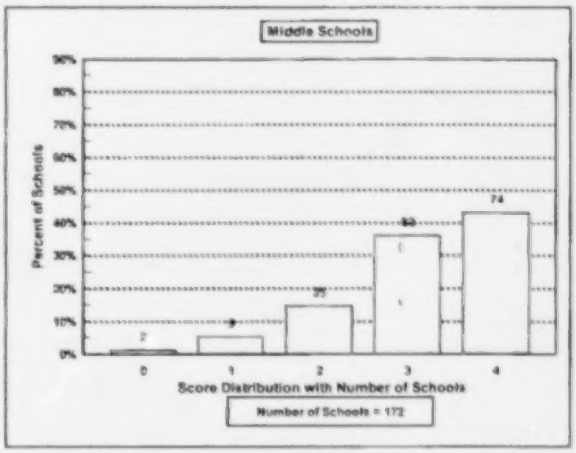
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

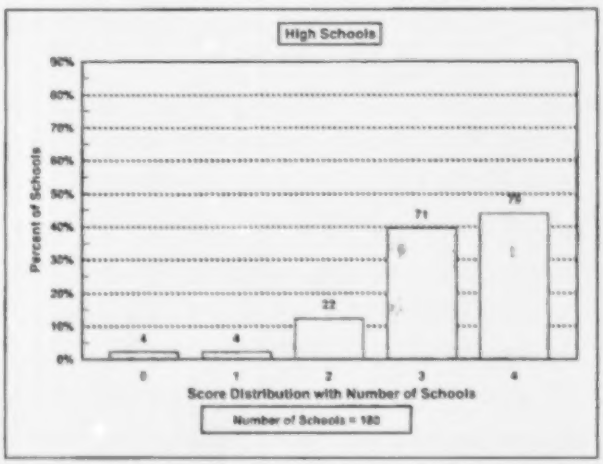
Basic voice, video and data transmission cabling system and devices connecting all program areas, all classrooms and school administration with adequate power available. Integrated system also includes clock, bell, paging and media control/retrieval. Can also include wireless systems for portable computing. (Differs from survey item # 18, Educational Technology, which is focused more on the use of hardware/software/electronic communications in the classroom.)

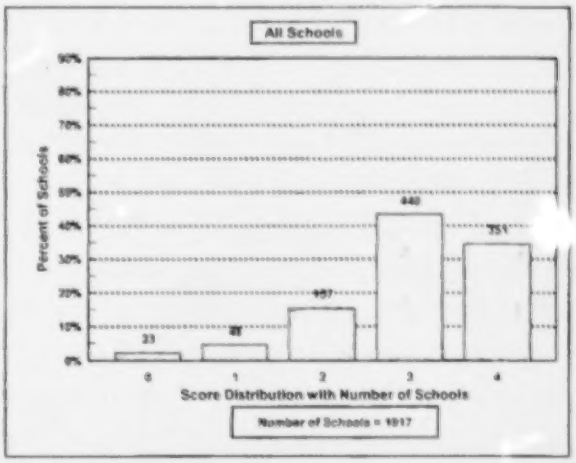
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	17	2	4	23
1	Less than adequate	33	9	4	46
2	Minimally adequate	110	25	22	157
3	Reasonably adequate	307	62	71	440
4	Well above adequate	198	74	79	351
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Technology Infrastructure	7.5%	6.4%	4.4%	6.8%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Technology Infrastructure	75.9%	79.1%	83.3%	77.8%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









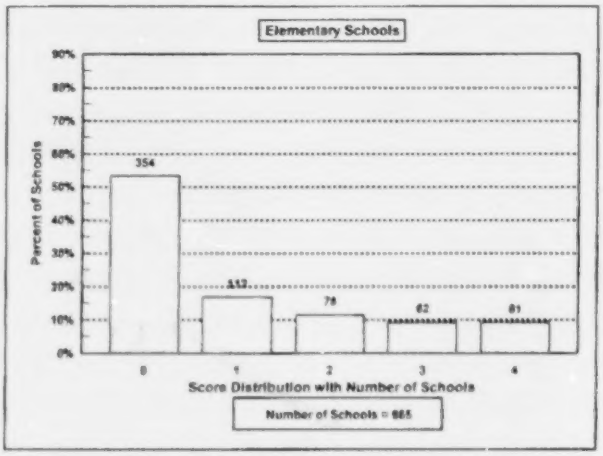
Air Conditioning:

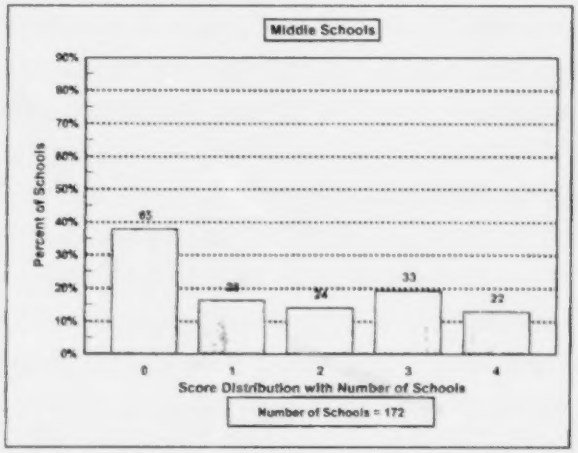
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

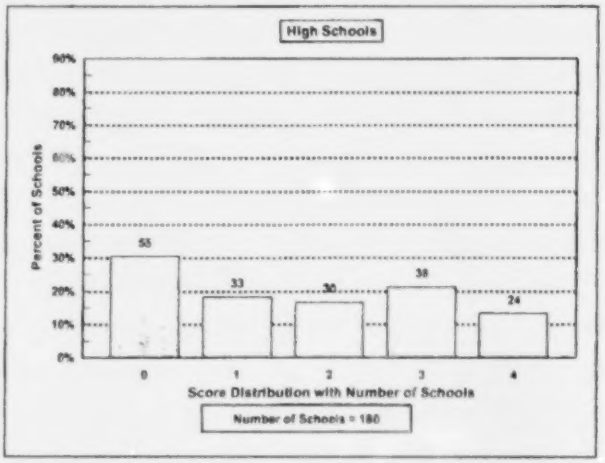
All instructional and student support service areas are air conditioned, as well as administrative areas. System works to keep the building comfortable throughout the cooling season. (If only administrative offices are air conditioned, this category should be responded to with a '0'.)

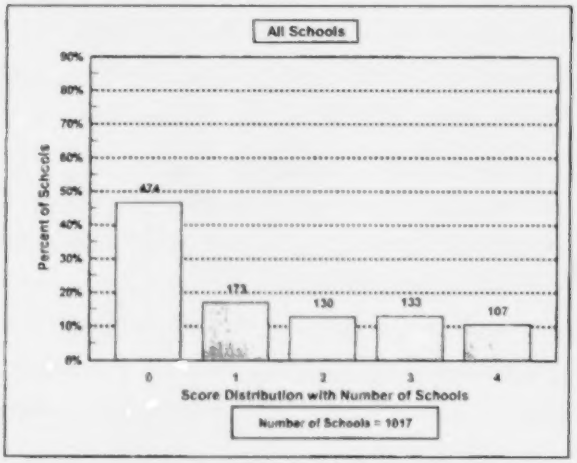
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	354	65	55	474
1	Less than adequate	112	28	33	173
2	Minimally adequate	76	24	30	130
3	Reasonably adequate	62	33	38	133
4	Well above adequate	61	22	24	107
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Air Conditioning	70.1%	54.1%	48.9%	63.6%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Air Conditioning	18.5%	32.0%	34.4%	23.6%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









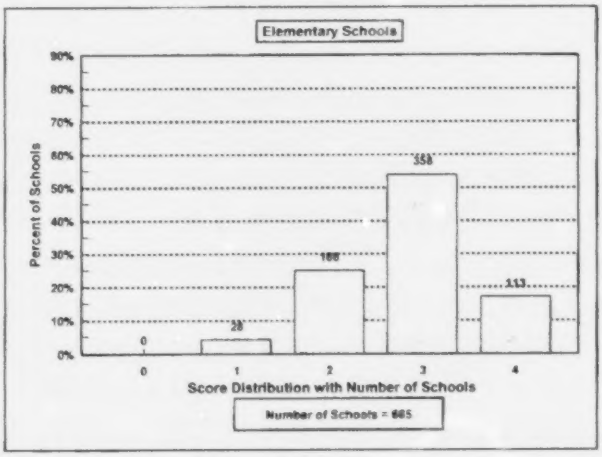
Heating:

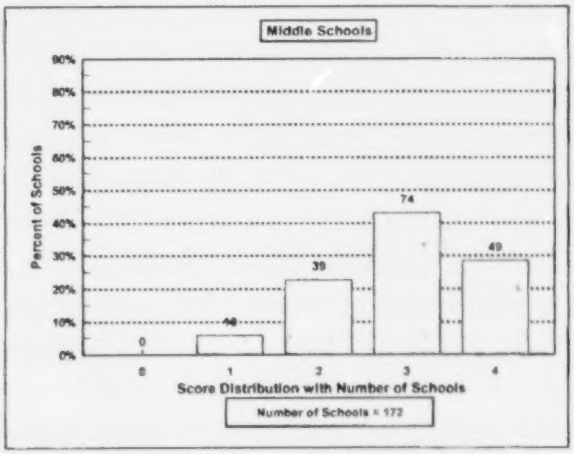
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

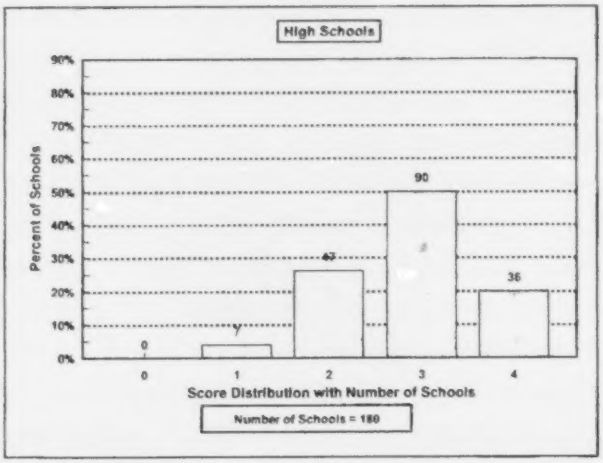
Fully operational heating system with zoned controls that allow for regulation in each classroom and office area. System works to keep the building comfortable throughout the heating season.

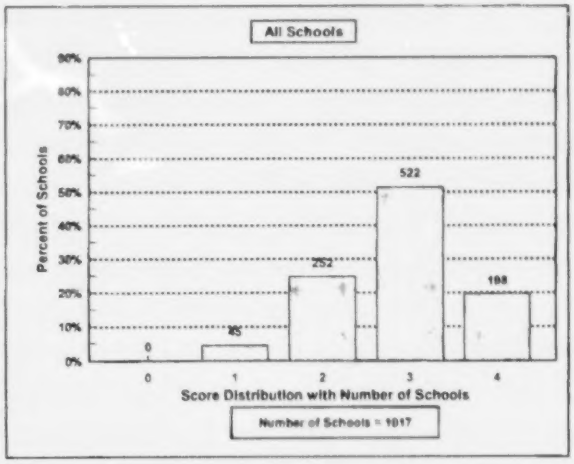
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	28	10	7	45
2	Minimally adequate	166	39	47	252
3	Reasonably adequate	358	74	90	522
4	Well above adequate	113	49	36	198
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Heating	4.2%	5.8%	3.9%	4.4%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Heating	70.8%	71.5%	70.0%	70.8%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









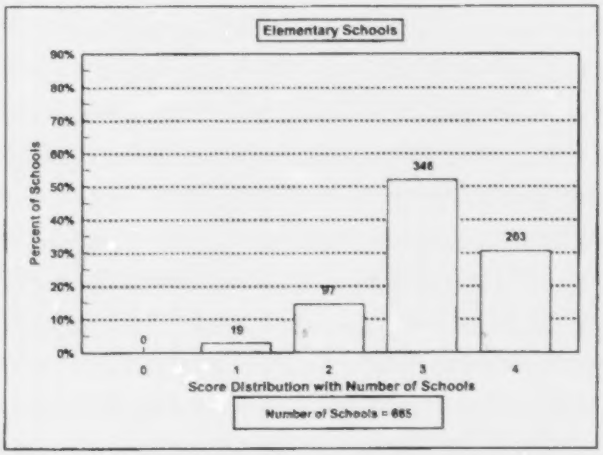
Interior Lighting:

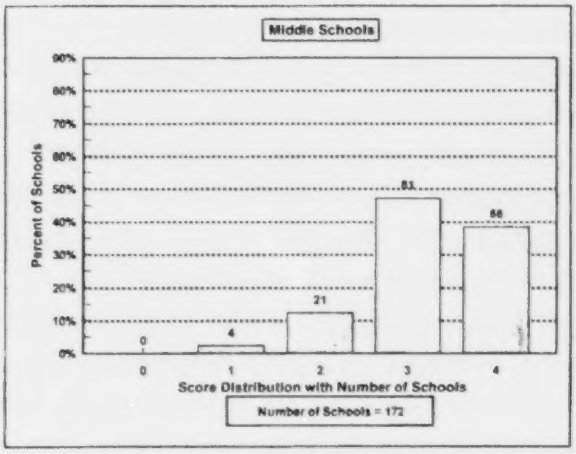
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

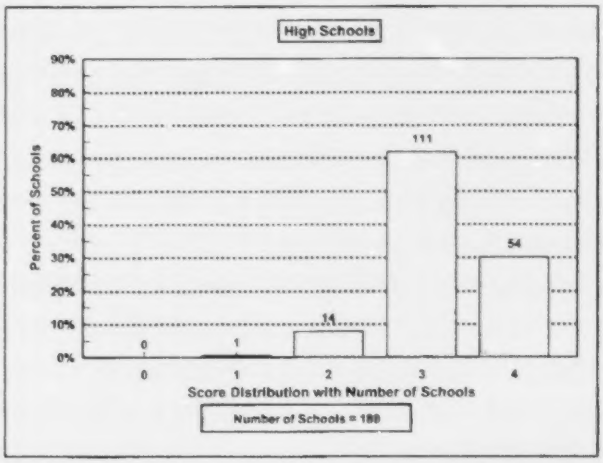
All instructional areas are well lit with an appropriate combination of natural and artificial light. All hallway, lavatory and other common areas have appropriate lighting that is consistently in working order.

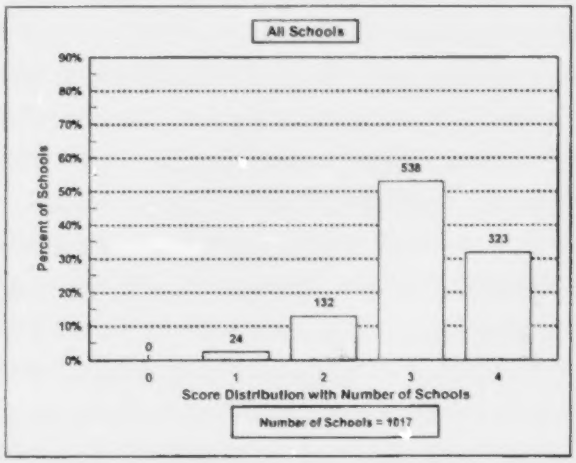
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	19	4	1	24
2	Minimally adequate	97	21	14	132
3	Reasonably adequate	346	81	111	538
4	Well above adequate	203	66	54	323
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Interior Lighting	2.9%	2.3%	0.6%	2.4%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Interior Lighting	82.6%	85.5%	91.7%	84.7%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









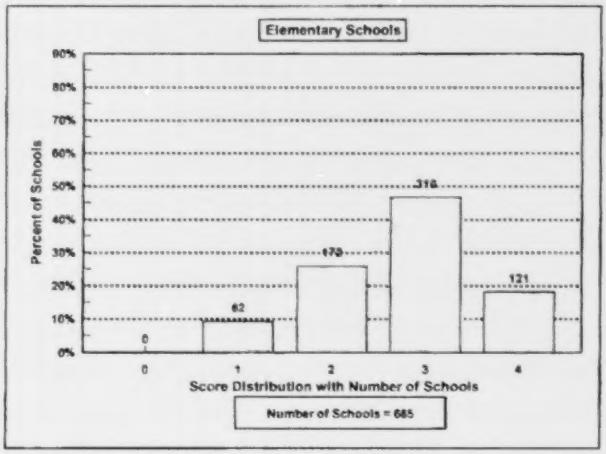
Exterior Lighting:

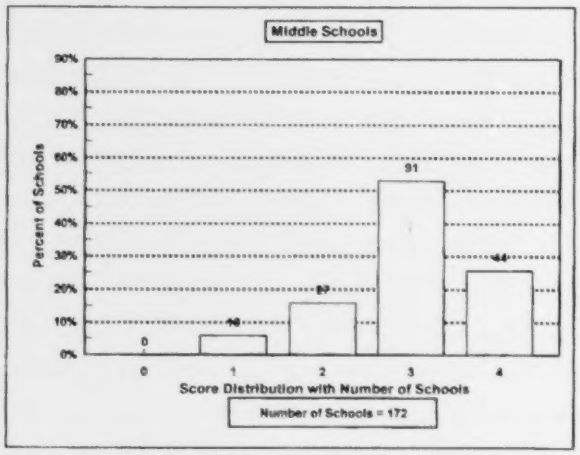
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

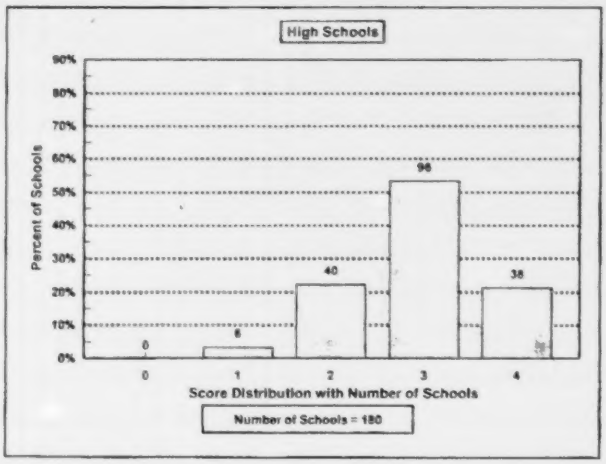
Exterior facade, walkways, roadways and parking areas have proper lighting that provides complete coverage of these areas for nighttime use. There are no dark or unlit areas around the perimeter of the building.

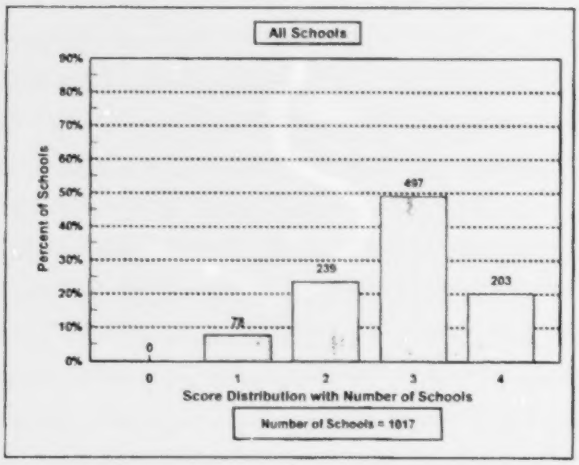
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	62	10	6	78
2	Minimally adequate	172	27	40	239
3	Reasonably adequate	310	91	96	497
4	Well above adequate	121	44	38	203
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Exterior Lighting	9.3%	5.8%	3.3%	7.7%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Exterior Lighting	64.8%	78.5%	74.4%	68.8%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









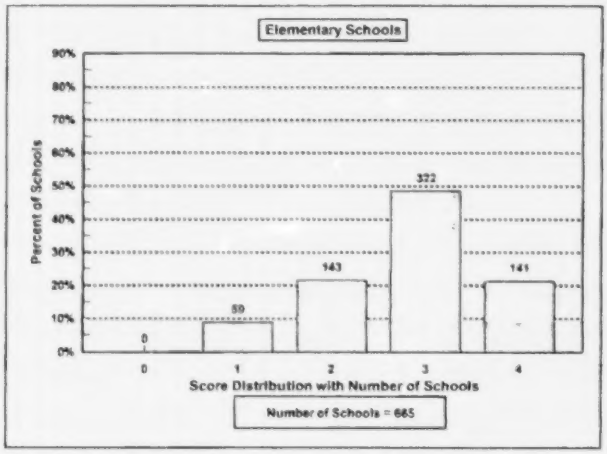
Roadways and Walks:

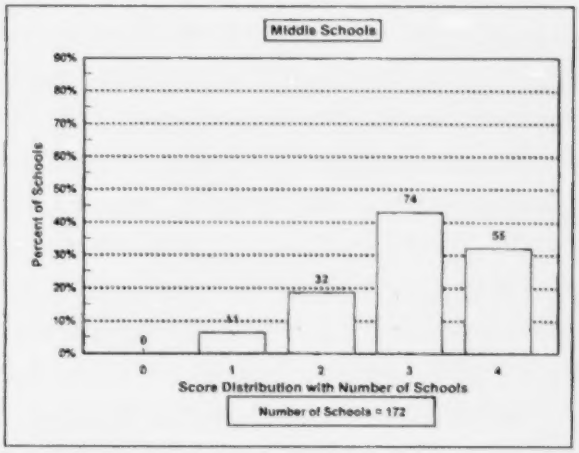
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

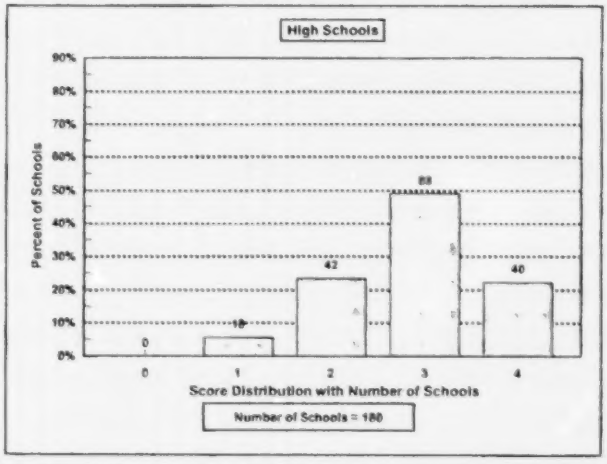
All walks and paved areas are free of potholes and caved-in areas, are properly marked for traffic control and pedestrian's safety, and are graded for handicapped accessibility.

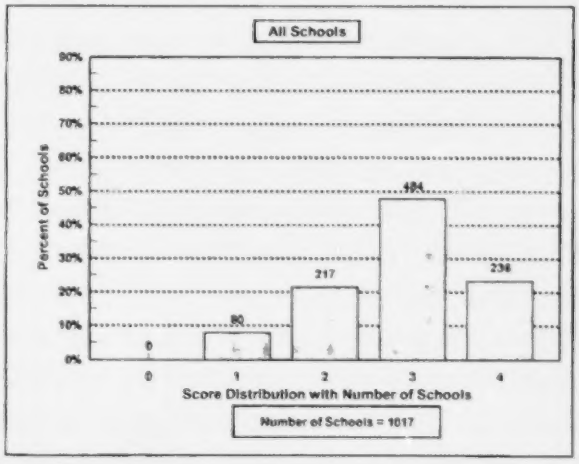
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	59	11	10	80
2	Minimally adequate	143	32	42	217
3	Reasonably adequate	322	74	88	484
4	Well above adequate	141	55	40	236
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Roadways and Walks	8.9%	6.4%	5.6%	7.9%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Roadways and Walks	69.6%	75.0%	71.1%	70.8%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









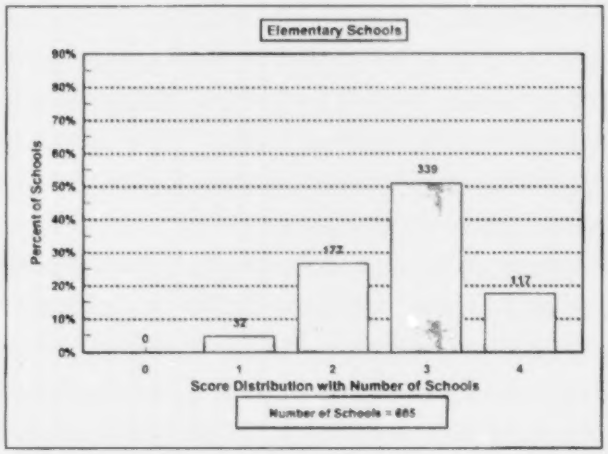
Plumbing/Lavatories:

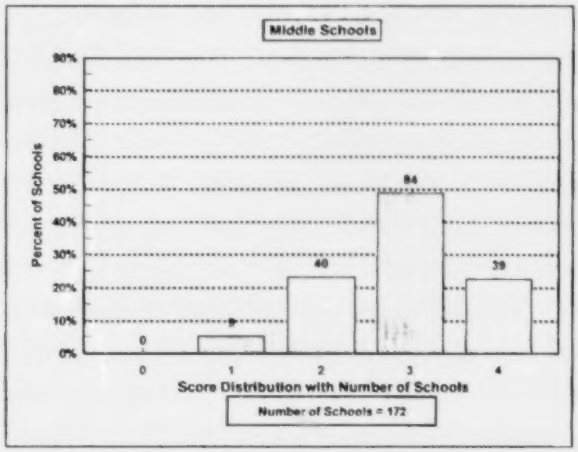
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

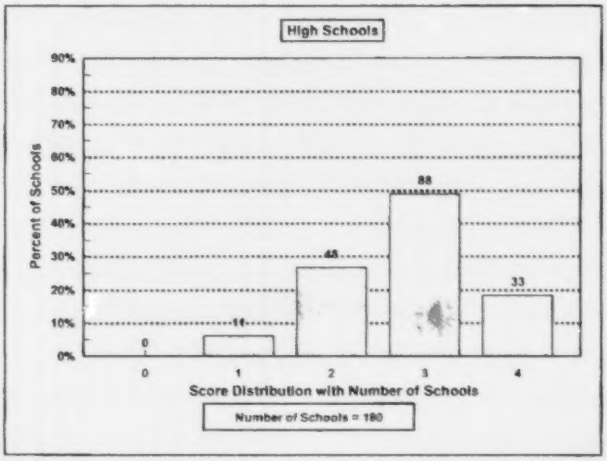
Plumbing is up to modern standards throughout the building with sufficient lavatories for students and staff, shower facilities in the locker rooms, sinks as needed in specialty classrooms, kitchen areas, drinking fountains, maintenance areas including external water supply fixtures.

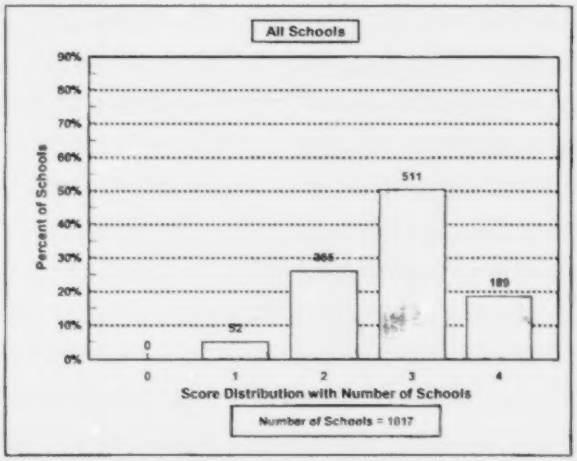
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	0	0	0	0
1	Less than adequate	32	9	11	52
2	Minimally adequate	177	40	48	265
3	Reasonably adequate	339	84	88	511
4	Well above adequate	117	39	33	189
	Total responses	665	172	180	1017
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Plumbing/Lavatories	4.8%	5.2%	6.1%	5.1%
	All system items	14.5%	11.3%	10.1%	13.2%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Plumbing/Lavatories	68.6%	71.5%	67.2%	68.8%
	All system items	65.0%	70.9%	70.9%	67.0%









Section 5
Dedicated Specialty Areas

The surveyed items in the designated specialty features category showed improvement in nearly all categories over the previous years and overall. As more and more major school renovations come on line and new schools are completed, it is reasonable to expect this trend to continue.

The items related to the utilization of education technology in the classroom (as opposed to technology infrastructure which measures the capacity of the building to house technology) registered a one-year gain of 11.3 percent and, since the first year, has now gone from 41.3 percent to 71.2 percent of schools rated reasonably adequate or better. This complements the gains posted in technology infrastructure and clearly indicates that both capacity and utilization are growing. Education technology was among the lowest rated categories just three years ago, but has now risen to become the highest rated specialty feature.

Less dramatic but nevertheless improved ratings were reported for most of the other dedicated specialty areas.

The only item posting a decline from the original survey is the all-purpose room, going from 40.7 percent of schools to 39.4 percent rated above minimal acceptable conditions, a drop of 1.3 percent. These heavy usage areas may well be more likely to show wear and tear. It should also be noted that all-purpose rooms, much like language labs, received a low positive percentage because "not included in facility" is treated as a negative response and many schools have no such room.

09/2002

Percentage of Schools Rated
Reasonably Adequate or Better By Survey Item
1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 With Cumulative Change

Table 5A

School Specialty Features

Survey Item Description:	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Cumulative Change
Art Room(s)	65.2%	65.0%	66.5%	68.3%	3.1
Music Room(s)	52.7%	53.7%	54.6%	57.9%	5.2
All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf.)	40.7%	41.0%	40.8%	39.4%	-1.3
Gymnasium	57.2%	57.8%	59.6%	62.4%	5.2
Auditorium	55.3%	54.7%	54.8%	57.4%	2.1
Cafeteria	54.8%	55.3%	56.4%	59.2%	4.4
Outdoor Play Area(s)	60.9%	61.4%	63.9%	65.9%	5.0
Outdoor Athletic Facilities	60.6%	60.6%	63.6%	63.6%	3.0
Education Technology	41.3%	46.4%	59.9%	71.2%	29.9
Science Lab(s)	62.2%	63.4%	66.9%	68.5%	6.3
Library Media Centers	60.8%	62.6%	65.6%	69.6%	8.8
Language Lab(s)	14.1%	14.9%	17.5%	20.7%	6.6
Technical/Career Education	44.7%	47.8%	51.2%	55.1%	10.4
Office/Administrative Space	54.4%	55.4%	58.0%	60.5%	6.1
Guidance/Student Services	39.2%	39.7%	41.2%	44.1%	4.9
Average for School Specialty Features Group	51.9%	53.0%	55.8%	58.9%	7.0

Section 5
Dedicated Specialty Areas (continued)

Elementary Schools

Elementary schools continue to report a higher number of missing features than middle or high schools. As Table 5B indicates, 19.2 percent of all responses in this section of the survey for elementary schools indicated the feature was not included in the facility. This is somewhat attributable to the use of all-purpose rooms versus separate gymnasiums and cafeterias in the majority of elementary schools. An elementary school with an all-purpose room nearly always reports no dedicated gymnasium or cafeteria and vice versa. Other features most commonly reported as missing from elementary schools were guidance/student service offices (37.9 percent), dedicated art rooms (15.4 percent) and music rooms (21.1 percent). Education technology, reported in 1998 as lacking or inadequate in almost one-third of elementary schools, improved by 2001 to only 11.3 percent negative responses (6.3 percent missing from facility and 5 percent inadequate).

Table 5C for elementary schools shows the following: About one in three schools (33 percent) statewide report at least eight of the ten features surveyed to be reasonably adequate or better. Well over half of the schools (55 percent) report a majority of features to be reasonably adequate or better. As with previous sections of the survey, ERG I schools have again been less likely to report quality features and more likely to report inadequate or missing ones. Less than one in three ERG I schools report a majority of its dedicated specialty areas to be reasonably adequate or better. These responses appear to be consistent with the previously discussed age and renovation status for elementary schools in ERG I. Schools in this group tend to be older both in terms of the original construction date and the years since the last major building renovation.

09/2002

Condition of Facilities: Dedicated Specialty Areas
Summary of Responses by Survey Item
Elementary Schools (N = 663)

Table 5B

Number and Percentage of Schools Reporting a Building Feature to be:

	Well Above Adequate		Reasonably Adequate		Minimally Adequate		Less Than Adequate		Not Included in Facility	
Survey Item Description:	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Art Room(s)	195	29.4%	238	35.9%	90	13.6%	38	5.7%	102	15.4%
Music Room(s)	145	21.9%	206	31.1%	122	18.4%	50	7.5%	140	21.1%
All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf.)	69	10.4%	224	33.8%	105	15.8%	26	3.9%	239	36.0%
Gymnasium	157	23.7%	189	28.5%	53	8.0%	22	3.3%	242	36.5%
Cafeteria	134	20.2%	208	31.4%	77	11.6%	20	3.0%	224	33.8%
Outdoor Play Area	125	18.9%	312	47.1%	159	24.0%	58	8.7%	9	1.4%
Education Technology	148	22.3%	306	46.2%	134	20.2%	33	5.0%	42	6.3%
Library Media Centers	177	26.7%	268	40.4%	143	21.6%	55	8.3%	20	3.0%
Office/Administrative Space	123	18.6%	261	39.4%	205	30.9%	72	10.9%	2	0.3%
Guidance/Student Services	72	10.9%	147	22.2%	115	17.3%	78	11.8%	251	37.9%
Total Responses	1345	20.3%	2359	35.6%	1203	18.1%	452	6.8%	1271	19.2%

09/2002

Elementary School Facilities: Dedicated Specialty Areas
Summary of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate
Or Better by Education Reference Group(ERG)

Table 5C

Education Reference Group (ERG)	Total Schools	Count of Schools Based on the Number of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate or Better											# of features rated reasonably adequate/better					
													At least 8		At least 6		2 or less	
		10 of 10 Items	9 of 10 Items	8 of 10 Items	7 of 10 Items	6 of 10 Items	5 of 10 Items	4 of 10 Items	3 of 10 Items	2 of 10 Items	1 of 10 Items	0 of 10 Items	Schools	%	Schools	%	Schools	%
A	32	3	7	8	3	4	5	0	1	1	0	0	18	56.3%	25	78.1%	1	3.1%
B	89	4	29	22	11	6	1	9	4	3	0	0	55	61.8%	72	80.9%	3	3.4%
C	64	4	12	9	14	6	6	3	1	3	3	3	25	39.1%	45	70.3%	9	14.1%
D	82	5	11	6	11	7	10	6	6	9	5	6	22	26.8%	40	48.8%	20	24.4%
E	27	3	4	1	7	4	1	2	1	1	2	1	8	29.6%	19	70.4%	4	14.8%
F	96	5	5	7	7	11	25	10	8	7	9	2	17	17.7%	35	36.5%	18	18.8%
G	37	2	8	4	4	3	5	1	2	4	3	1	14	37.8%	21	56.8%	8	21.6%
H	105	3	13	17	14	13	9	8	9	9	8	2	33	31.4%	60	57.1%	19	18.1%
I	131	3	12	10	7	10	7	12	18	24	22	6	25	19.1%	42	32.1%	52	39.7%
Total Schools	663	32	101	84	78	64	69	51	50	61	52	21	217	32.7%	359	54.1%	134	20.2%
Percent of Total Schools	100%	5%	15%	13%	12%	10%	10%	8%	8%	9%	8%	3%						
Cumulative Percent		5%	20%	33%	45%	55%	65%	73%	81%	90%	98%	100%						

Section 5
Dedicated Specialty Areas (continued)

Middle Schools

In general, the ratings for middle schools are a little higher than for elementary facilities. A greater percentage of total responses rate specialty areas to be reasonably adequate or better (58.9 percent versus 55.9 percent) although both types of facilities reported more positive responses in 2001. Middle schools also report fewer inadequate or missing features, and when they do, it is most often because the facility does not include a particular feature. Over half of the "not included in facility" responses result from two items: all-purpose rooms and language labs. Neither of these results is particularly surprising, since many middle schools are former high schools or were built on the high school model with separate gymnasiums and cafeteria facilities rather than the all-purpose room more common to elementary facilities. As far as dedicated language labs are concerned, only one in four middle schools report having one. Auditoriums and technical/career education were the only other specialty features missing from at least 25 percent of middle school facilities.

09/2002

Condition of Facilities: Dedicated Specialty Areas
Summary of Responses by Survey Item
Middle Schools (N = 172)

Table 5D

Number and Percentage of Schools Reporting a Building Feature to be:

	Well Above Adequate		Reasonably Adequate		Minimally Adequate		Less Than Adequate		Not Included in Facility	
Survey Item Description:	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Art Room(s)	62	36.0%	69	40.1%	31	18.0%	8	4.7%	2	1.2%
Music Room(s)	55	32.0%	60	34.9%	39	22.7%	8	4.7%	10	5.8%
All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf.)	15	8.7%	21	12.2%	9	5.2%	3	1.7%	124	72.1%
Gymnasium	54	31.4%	84	48.8%	19	11.0%	11	6.4%	4	2.3%
Auditorium	39	22.7%	44	25.6%	16	9.3%	7	4.1%	66	38.4%
Cafeteria	57	33.1%	66	38.4%	29	16.9%	9	5.2%	11	6.4%
Outdoor Athletic Facilities	33	19.2%	68	39.5%	46	26.7%	9	5.2%	16	9.3%
Education Technology	57	33.1%	67	39.0%	41	23.8%	3	1.7%	4	2.3%
Science Lab(s)	53	30.8%	63	36.6%	37	21.5%	12	7.0%	7	4.1%
Library Media Centers	67	39.0%	61	35.5%	27	15.7%	13	7.6%	4	2.3%
Language Lab(s)	9	5.2%	15	8.7%	12	7.0%	5	2.9%	131	76.2%
Technical/Career Education	25	14.5%	50	29.1%	43	25.0%	11	6.4%	43	25.0%
Office/Administrative Space	48	27.9%	65	37.8%	45	26.2%	14	8.1%	0	0.0%
Guidance/Student Services	53	30.8%	59	34.3%	44	25.6%	14	8.1%	2	1.2%
Total Responses	627	26.0%	792	32.9%	438	18.2%	127	5.3%	424	17.6%

09/2002

Middle School Facilities: Dedicated Specialty Areas
Summary of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate Or Better by Education Reference Group(ERG)

Table 5E

Education Reference Group (ERG)	Total Schools	Count of Schools Based on the Number of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate or Better															# of features rated reasonably adequate/better					
		14 of 14 Items	13 of 14 Items	12 of 14 Items	11 of 14 Items	10 of 14 Items	9 of 14 Items	8 of 14 Items	7 of 14 Items	6 of 14 Items	5 of 14 Items	4 of 14 Items	3 of 14 Items	2 of 14 Items	1 of 14 Items	0 of 14 Items	At least 11		At least 8		3 or less	
																	Schools	%	Schools	%	Schools	%
A	12	1	0	3	1	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	41.7%	9	75.0%	1	8.3%
B	28	0	1	8	1	4	2	7	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	10	35.7%	23	82.1%	1	3.6%
C	21	0	0	2	5	2	1	0	4	1	0	0	2	1	2	1	7	33.3%	10	47.6%	6	28.6%
D	21	1	0	3	3	2	0	2	3	1	3	1	0	1	1	1	7	33.3%	11	52.4%	3	14.3%
E	9	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	33.3%	4	44.4%	1	11.1%
F	24	0	1	5	2	3	2	3	1	3	0	2	0	1	1	0	8	33.3%	16	66.7%	2	8.3%
G	9	0	0	1	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	33.3%	7	77.8%	0	0.0%
H	26	0	0	6	3	4	0	1	2	3	0	1	0	3	1	2	9	34.6%	14	53.8%	6	23.1%
I	21	0	1	1	6	3	2	0	2	2	1	0	2	0	0	1	8	38.1%	13	61.9%	3	14.3%
Total Schools	171	2	3	30	25	23	9	15	17	12	7	6	6	6	6	5	60	35.1%	107	62.6%	23	13.5%
Percent of Total - Schools	100%	1%	2%	18%	15%	13%	5%	9%	10%	7%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%						
Cumulative Percent		1%	2%	19%	34%	47%	53%	61%	71%	78%	82%	86%	89%	93%	96%	100%						

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Section 5
Dedicated Specialty Areas (continued)

High Schools

High school facilities were most likely to include all or most of the specialty areas surveyed. From Table 5F, 10.4 percent of all responses show features missing from buildings, and a large percentage of these can be attributed to the language lab item. Auditoriums and music rooms are the other areas most frequently reported to be lacking (35 and 26 schools, respectively, up from a year ago). Part of the increase is attributable to the addition of several facilities used as alternative high schools, magnets or special education facilities that do not include all features. Only four high schools reported no educational technology, down from 23 three years ago. As far as the number of features rated reasonably adequate or better, high schools continue to be rated more favorably than elementary and middle schools.

The relatively low percentage of vocational-technical facilities with very high ratings is influenced considerably by the fact that most, if not all, have no dedicated music rooms, language labs or auditoriums. A number of major renovations authorized or underway should result in improved ratings in virtually all survey areas for the vocational-technical schools.

09/2002

Condition of Facilities: Dedicated Specialty Areas
Summary of Responses by Survey Item
High Schools (N = 171)

Table 5F

Number and Percentage of Schools Reporting a Building Feature to be:

	Well Above Adequate		Reasonably Adequate		Minimally Adequate		Less Than Adequate		Not Included in Facility	
Survey Item Description:	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Art Room(s)	44	25.7%	79	46.2%	38	22.2%	3	1.8%	7	4.1%
Music Room(s)	40	23.4%	76	44.4%	25	14.6%	4	2.3%	26	15.2%
Gymnasium	50	29.2%	94	55.0%	14	8.2%	2	1.2%	11	6.4%
Auditorium	61	35.7%	53	31.0%	19	11.1%	3	1.8%	35	20.5%
Cafeteria	45	26.3%	86	50.3%	24	14.0%	6	3.5%	10	5.8%
Outdoor Athletic Facilities	38	22.2%	79	46.2%	35	20.5%	6	3.5%	13	7.6%
Education Technology	69	40.4%	69	40.4%	27	15.8%	2	1.2%	4	2.3%
Science Lab(s)	51	29.8%	68	39.8%	40	23.4%	8	4.7%	4	2.3%
Library Media Centers	47	27.5%	80	46.8%	33	19.3%	7	4.1%	4	2.3%
Language Lab(s)	23	13.5%	24	14.0%	10	5.8%	13	7.6%	101	59.1%
Technical/Career Education	28	16.4%	86	50.3%	34	19.9%	9	5.3%	14	8.2%
Office/Administrative Space	42	24.6%	70	40.9%	49	28.7%	10	5.8%	0	0.0%
Guidance/Student Services	50	29.2%	63	36.8%	50	29.2%	6	3.5%	2	1.2%
Total Responses	588	26.5%	927	41.7%	398	17.9%	79	3.6%	231	10.4%

09/2002

High School Facilities: Dedicated Specialty Areas
Summary of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate
Or Better by Education Reference Group(ERG)

Table 5G

Education Reference Group (ERG)	Total Schools	Count of Schools Based on the Number of Items Rated Reasonably Adequate or Better														# of features rated reasonably adequate/better					
																At least 10		At least 7		3 or less	
		13 of 13 Items	12 of 13 Items	11 of 13 Items	10 of 13 Items	9 of 13 Items	8 of 13 Items	7 of 13 Items	6 of 13 Items	5 of 13 Items	4 of 13 Items	3 of 13 Items	2 of 13 Items	1 of 13 Items	0 of 13 Items	Schools	%	Schools	%	Schools	%
A	9	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	44.4%	7	77.8%	0	0.0%
B	18	6	4	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	13	72.2%	16	88.9%	0	0.0%
C	21	3	5	3	0	0	1	2	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	11	52.4%	14	66.7%	3	14.3%
D	20	2	7	1	3	0	0	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	13	65.0%	16	80.0%	0	0.0%
E	10	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	50.0%	8	80.0%	0	0.0%
F	23	1	3	5	2	3	2	2	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	11	47.8%	18	78.3%	3	13.0%
G	11	1	2	0	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	45.5%	8	72.7%	2	18.2%
H	18	4	1	2	4	1	3	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	11	61.1%	15	83.3%	0	0.0%
I	24	2	1	5	2	2	4	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	1	10	41.7%	16	66.7%	5	20.8%
VT Sch.	17	0	0	1	2	4	3	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	17.6%	11	64.7%	0	0.0%
Total Schools	171	21	26	19	20	12	19	12	13	6	10	5	7	0	1	86	50.3%	129	75.4%	13	7.6%
Percent of Total Schools	100%	12%	15%	11%	12%	7%	11%	7%	8%	4%	6%	3%	4%	0%	1%						
Cumulative Percent		12%	27%	38%	50%	57%	68%	75%	83%	87%	93%	96%	100%	100%	100%						

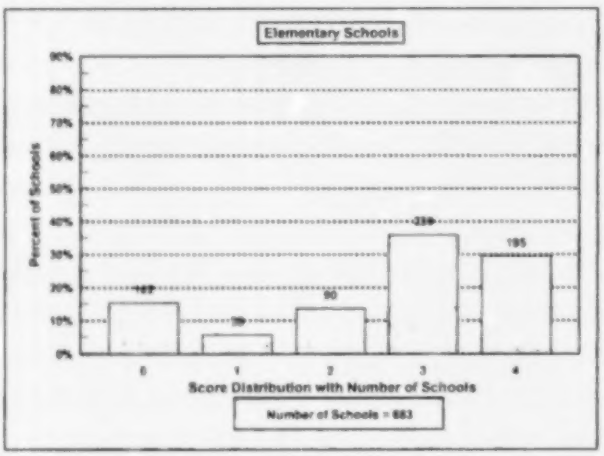
Art Room(s):

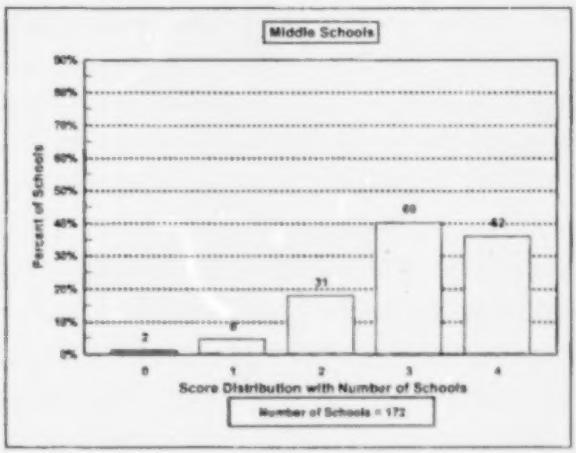
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

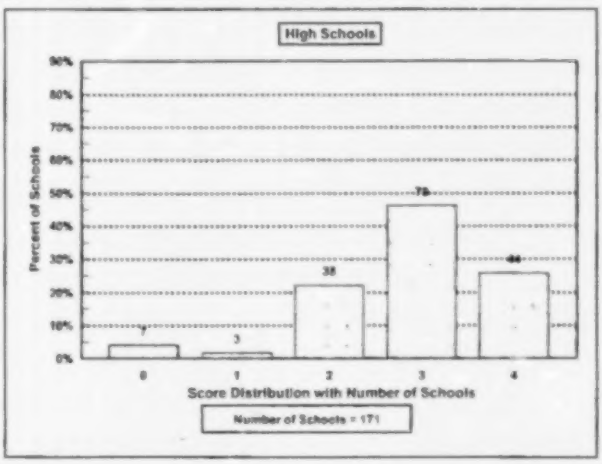
There is a complete art program with a dedicated art room to accommodate either individual or small group projects and specialized equipment. The lighting is brighter than in most other instructional spaces, and water and sinks are provided. There is adequate storage for supplies and ongoing projects.

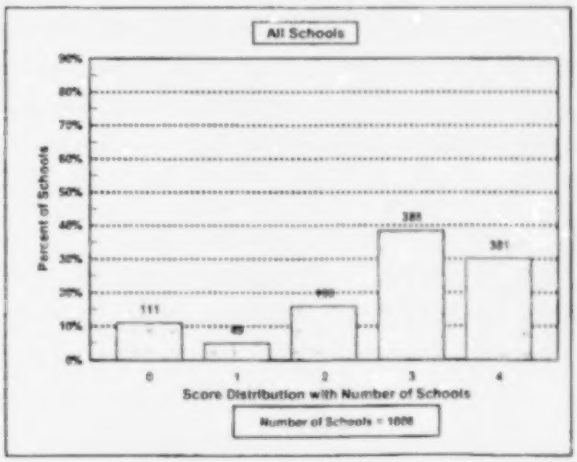
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	102	2	7	111
1	Less than adequate	38	8	3	49
2	Minimally adequate	90	31	38	159
3	Reasonably adequate	238	69	79	386
4	Well above adequate	195	62	44	301
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Art Room(s)	21.1%	5.8%	5.8%	15.9%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Art Room(s)	65.3%	76.2%	71.9%	68.3%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









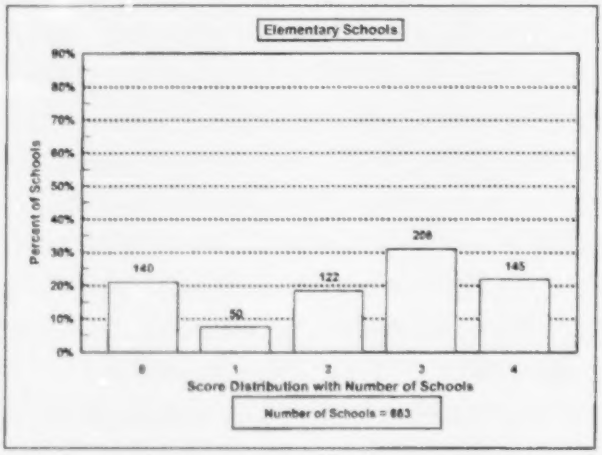
Music Room(s):

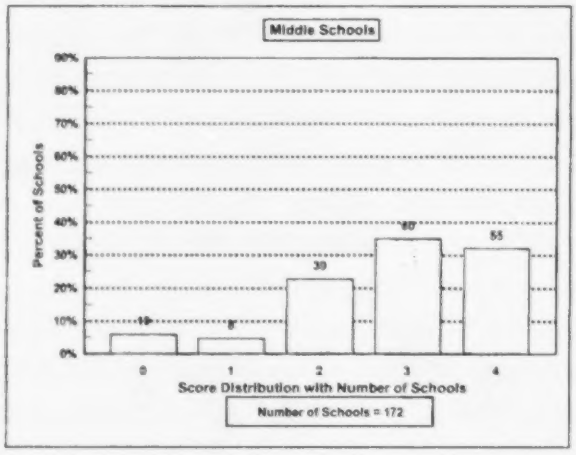
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

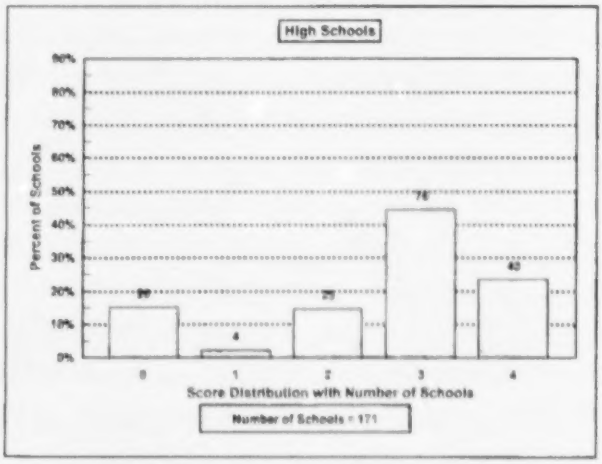
There is separate dedicated space designed for the music program, both choral and instrumental, with acoustic treatment. There is adequate storage space for sheet music and instruments, along with practice rooms.

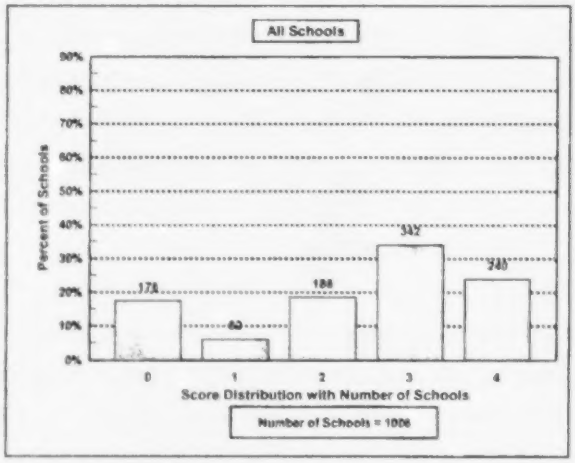
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	140	10	26	176
1	Less than adequate	50	8	4	62
2	Minimally adequate	122	39	25	186
3	Reasonably adequate	206	60	76	342
4	Well above adequate	145	55	40	240
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Music Room(s)	28.7%	10.5%	17.5%	23.7%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Music Room(s)	52.9%	66.9%	67.8%	57.9%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









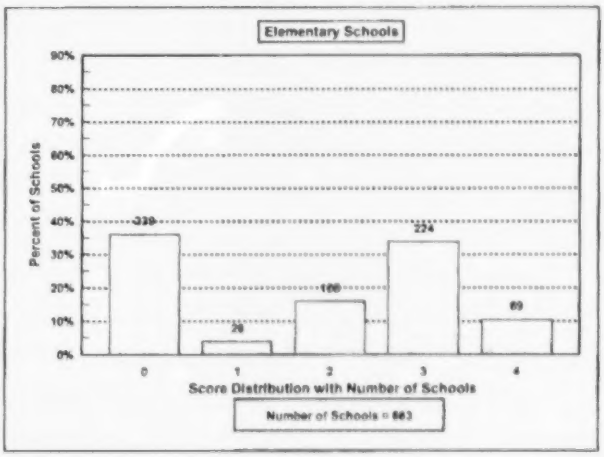
All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf.):

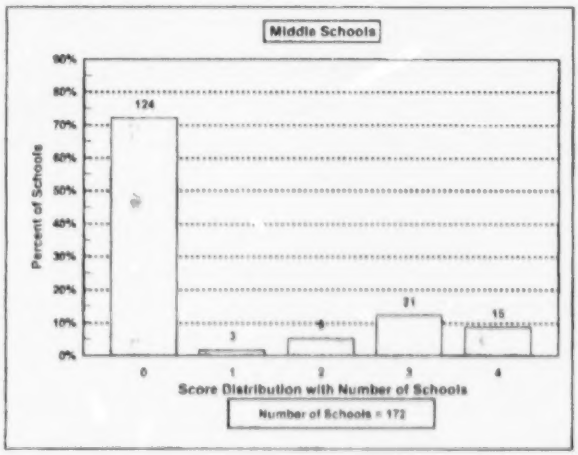
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

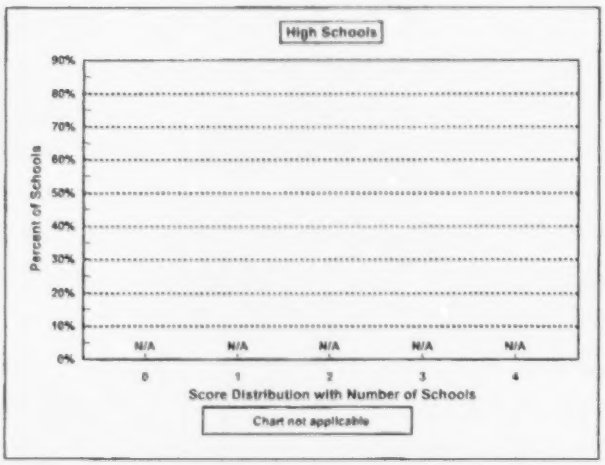
There is a general purpose room that serves as any combination of gymnasium, auditorium and cafeteria.

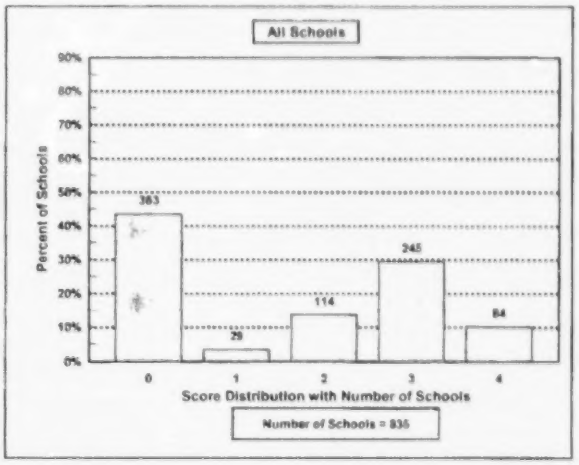
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	239	124	N/A	363
1	Less than adequate	26	3	N/A	29
2	Minimally adequate	105	9	N/A	114
3	Reasonably adequate	224	21	N/A	245
4	Well above adequate	69	15	N/A	84
	Total responses	663	172	N/A	835
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf.)	40.0%	73.8%	N/A	46.9%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf.)	44.2%	20.9%	N/A	39.4%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









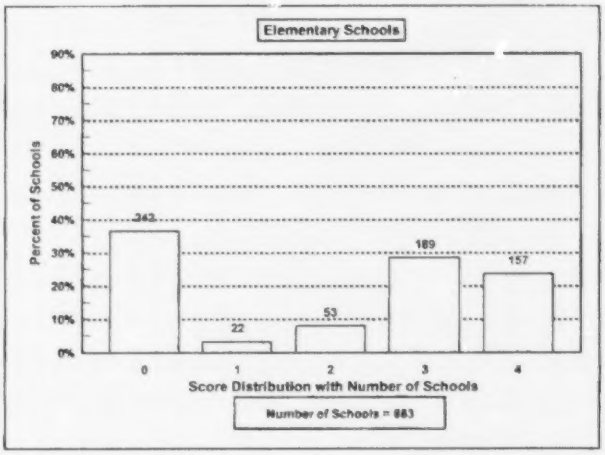
Gymnasium:

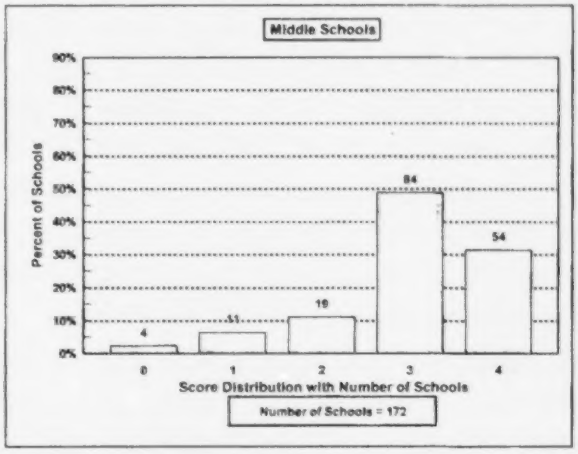
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

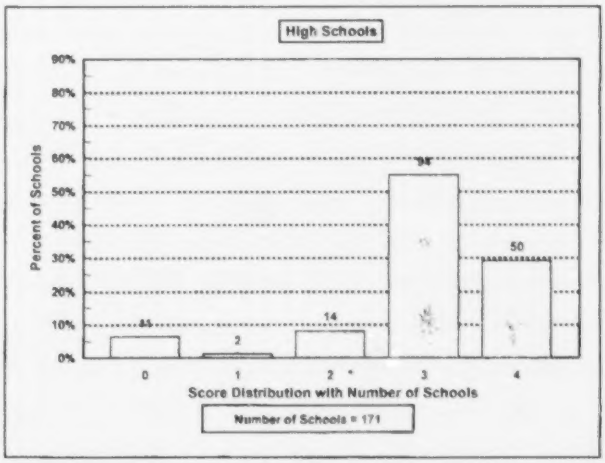
The school has gymnasium facilities with sufficient space to accommodate equal programs. Middle and high schools should also include shower and locker facilities. Adequate equipment for the appropriate grade range is available, along with sufficient storage space.

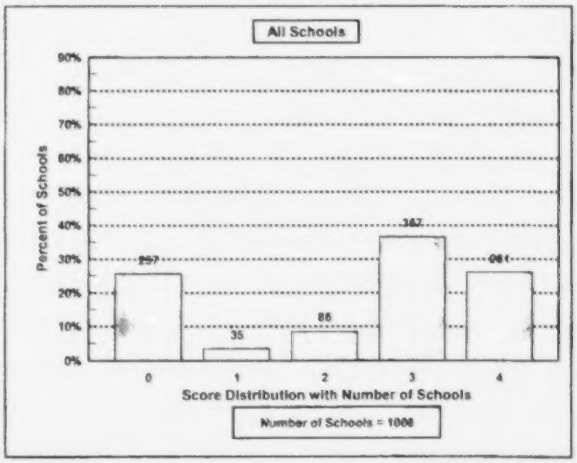
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	242	4	11	257
1	Less than adequate	22	11	2	35
2	Minimally adequate	53	19	14	86
3	Reasonably adequate	189	84	94	367
4	Well above adequate	157	54	50	261
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Gymnasium	39.8%	8.7%	7.6%	29.0%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Gymnasium	52.2%	80.2%	84.2%	62.4%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









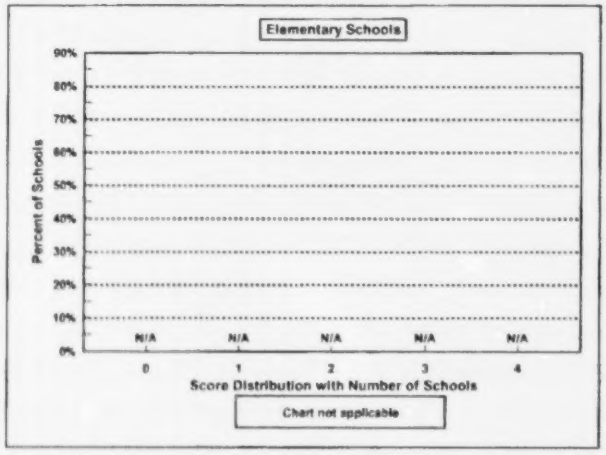
Auditorium:

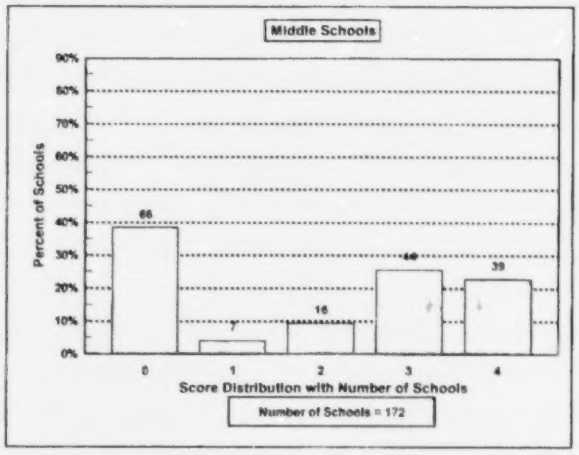
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

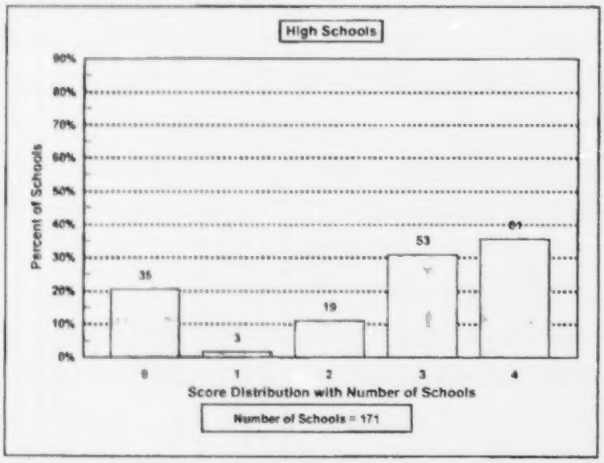
The school has an auditorium with fixed seating for at least one-half of the enrollment, with the capacity to do theater productions as well as vocal and instrumental performances.

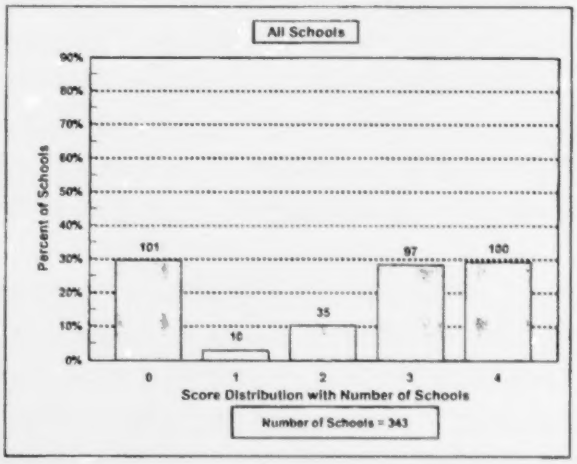
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	N/A	66	35	101
1	Less than adequate	N/A	7	3	10
2	Minimally adequate	N/A	16	19	35
3	Reasonably adequate	N/A	44	53	97
4	Well above adequate	N/A	39	61	100
	Total responses	N/A	172	171	343
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Auditorium	N/A	42.4%	22.2%	32.4%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Auditorium	N/A	48.3%	66.7%	57.4%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









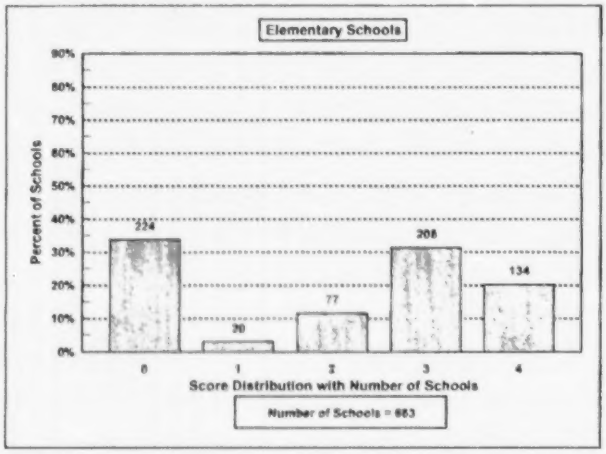
Cafeteria:

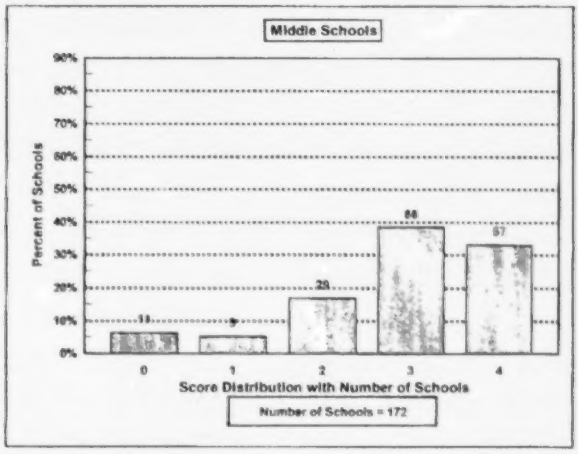
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

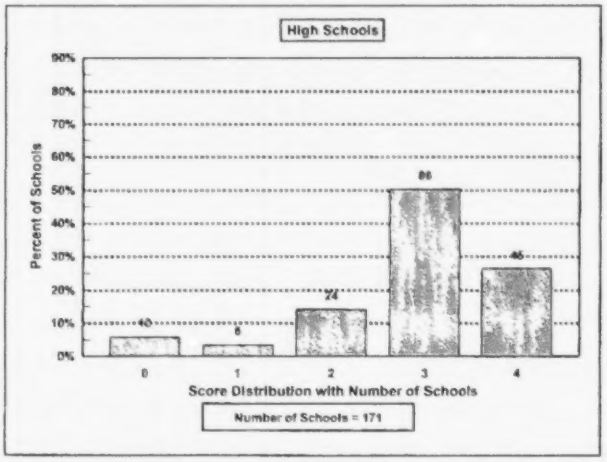
There is a cafeteria that seats at least one-third of the enrollment (for elementary schools) or one-fourth of the enrollment (for middle and high schools). Kitchen, serving and seating areas are well equipped and provide a comfortable dining environment.

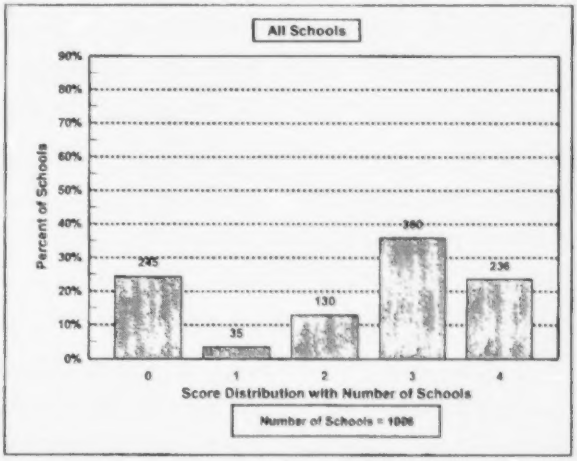
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	224	11	10	245
1	Less than adequate	20	9	6	35
2	Minimally adequate	77	29	24	130
3	Reasonably adequate	208	66	86	360
4	Well above adequate	134	57	45	236
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
	Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:				
	Cafeteria	36.8%	11.6%	9.4%	27.8%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
	Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:				
	Cafeteria	51.6%	71.5%	76.6%	59.2%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









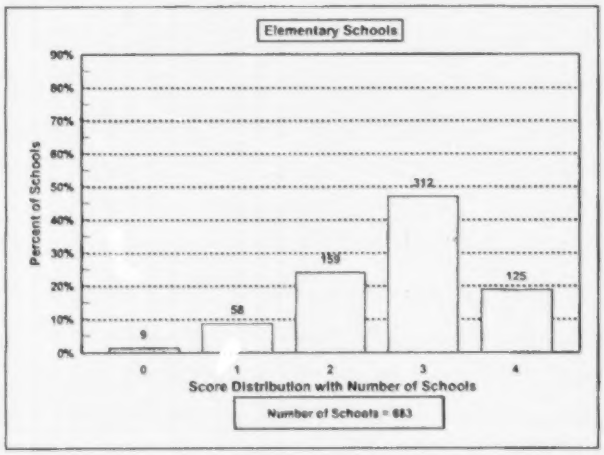
Outdoor Play Area(s):

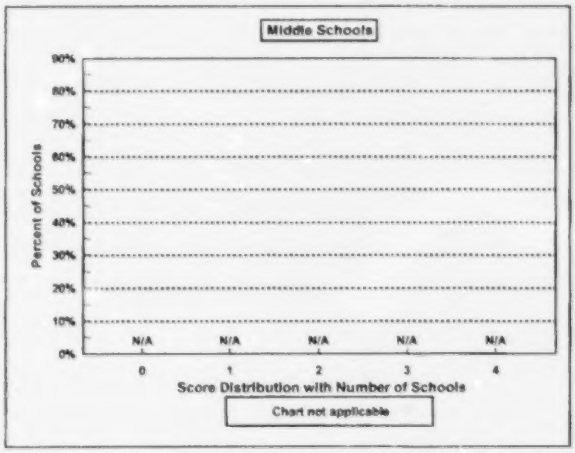
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

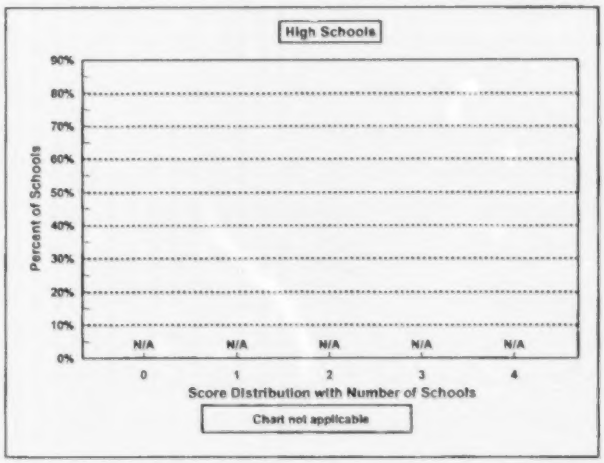
There is up-to-date equipment in safe condition, age appropriate, isolated from traffic, well drained, and of sufficient size to meet school programs and enrollment. Play area may be municipal if adjacent to the school.

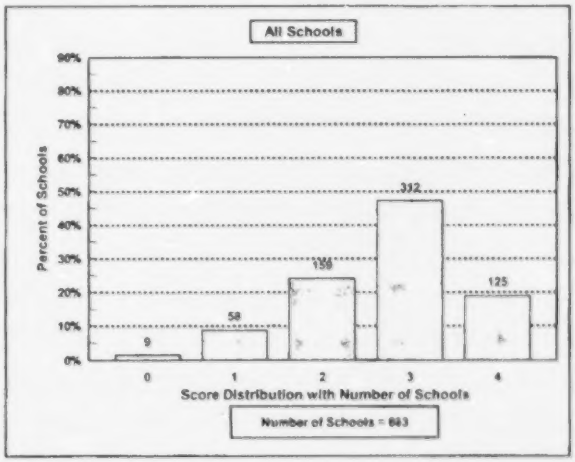
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	9	N/A	N/A	9
1	Less than adequate	58	N/A	N/A	58
2	Minimally adequate	159	N/A	N/A	159
3	Reasonably adequate	312	N/A	N/A	312
4	Well above adequate	125	N/A	N/A	125
	Total responses	663	N/A	N/A	663
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Outdoor Play Area(s)	10.1%	N/A	N/A	10.1%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Outdoor Play Area(s)	65.9%	N/A	N/A	65.9%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









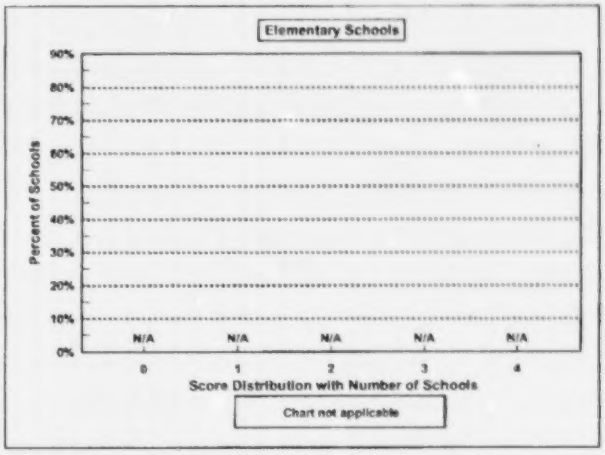
Outdoor Athletic Facilities:

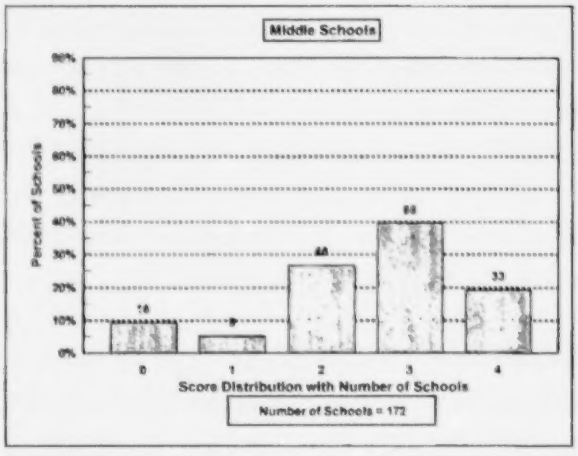
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

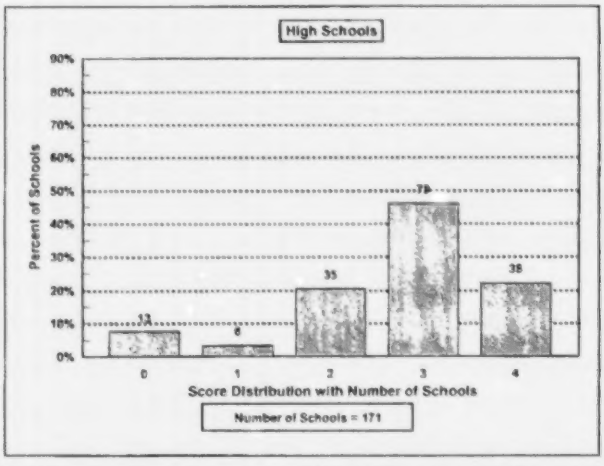
The playing fields meet the requirements of a complete interscholastic athletic program and are maintained in playing condition with adequate spectator and competitor accommodations. Athletic facilities may be those of the municipality and may be in a separate location from the school, except that off-site facilities should not be rated a 4 unless they are complemented by on-site facilities that properly support physical education instruction and intramural sports.

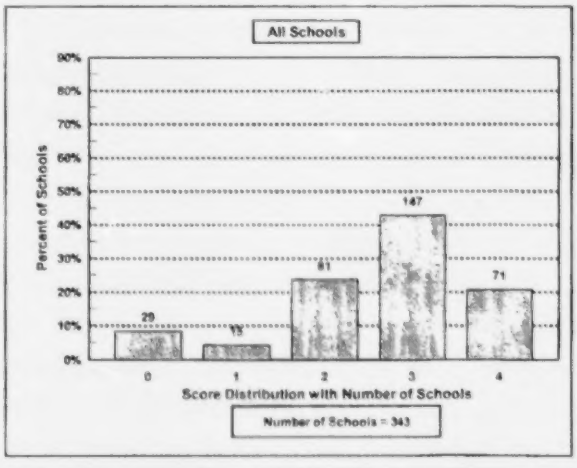
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	N/A	16	13	29
1	Less than adequate	N/A	9	6	15
2	Minimally adequate	N/A	46	35	81
3	Reasonably adequate	N/A	68	79	147
4	Well above adequate	N/A	33	38	71
	Total responses	N/A	172	171	343
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Outdoor Athletic Facilities	N/A	14.5%	11.1%	12.8%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Outdoor Athletic Facilities	N/A	58.7%	68.4%	63.6%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









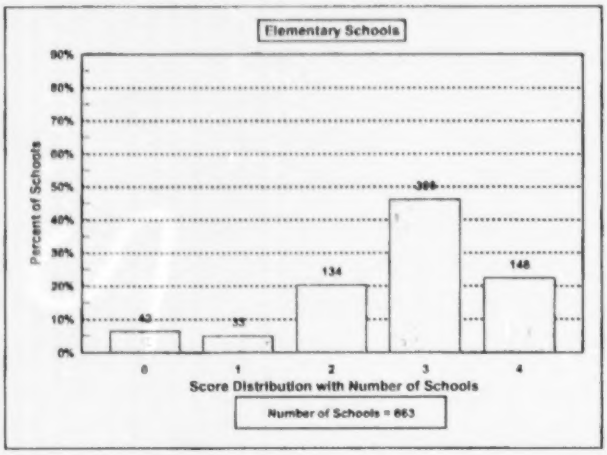
Education Technology:

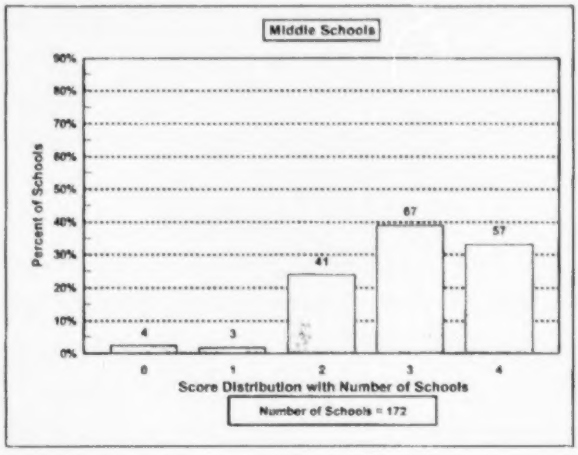
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

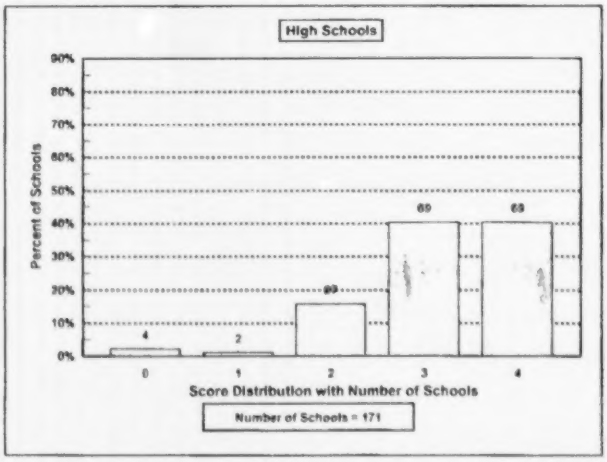
Hardware/Software combination utilizing voice, video and data communications used within spaces for the educational process. (Differs from survey item # 26, Technology Infrastructure, which is more focused on the wiring inside the walls.) A dedicated computer lab in lieu of usage in all program areas should get maximum rating of 2.

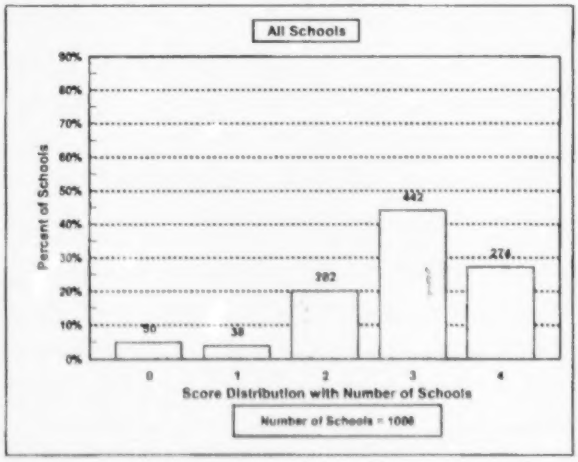
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	42	4	4	50
1	Less than adequate	33	3	2	38
2	Minimally adequate	134	41	27	202
3	Reasonably adequate	306	67	69	442
4	Well above adequate	148	57	69	274
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Education Technology	11.3%	4.1%	3.5%	8.7%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Education Technology	68.5%	72.1%	80.7%	71.2%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









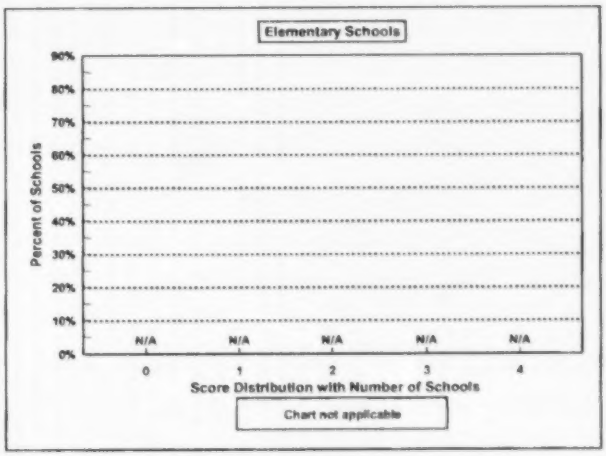
Science Lab(s):

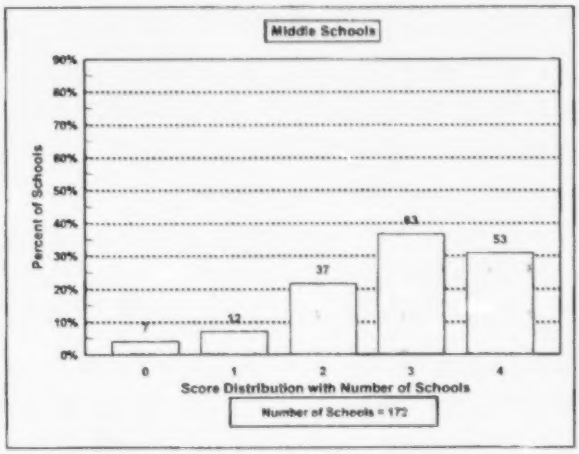
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

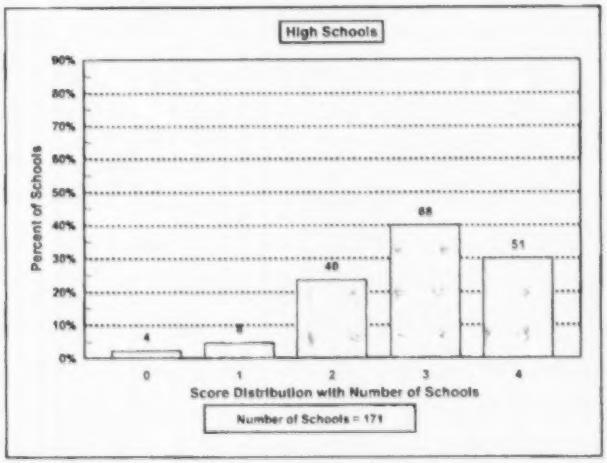
The school has sufficient teaching and laboratory space, equipped for biological, physical and earth science programs (elementary schools) or for earth science, biology, chemistry and physics (middle and high schools). Adequate prep rooms including appropriate water and gas fixtures and proper storage for hazardous materials with appropriate ventilation.

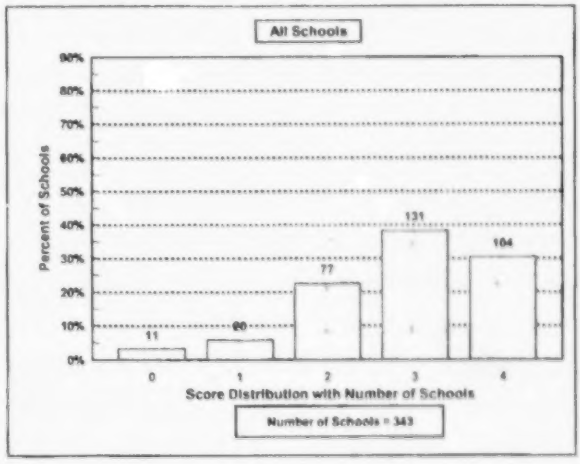
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	N/A	7	4	11
1	Less than adequate	N/A	12	8	20
2	Minimally adequate	N/A	37	40	77
3	Reasonably adequate	N/A	63	68	131
4	Well above adequate	N/A	53	51	104
	Total responses	N/A	172	171	343
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Science Lab(s)	N/A	11.0%	7.0%	9.0%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Science Lab(s)	N/A	67.4%	69.6%	68.5%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









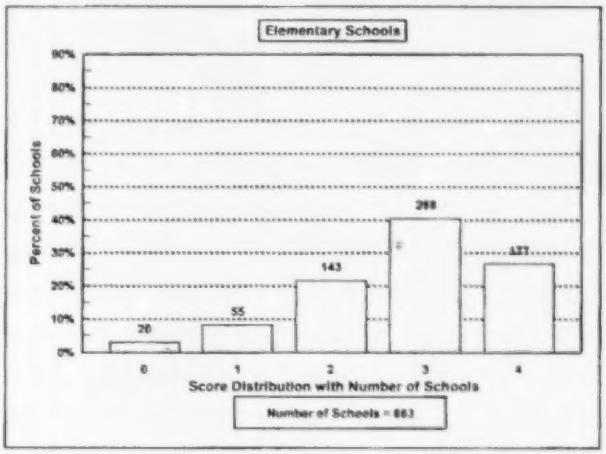
Library Media Centers:

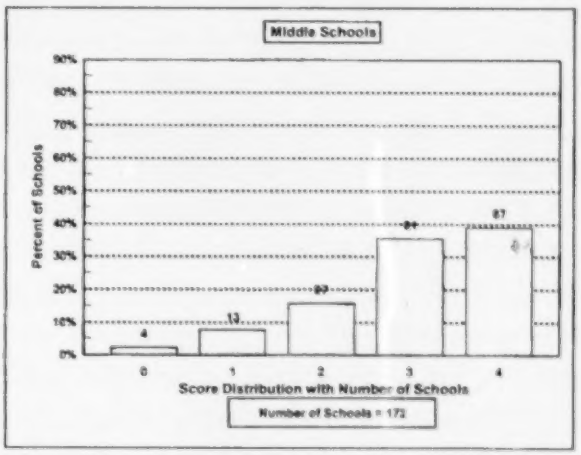
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

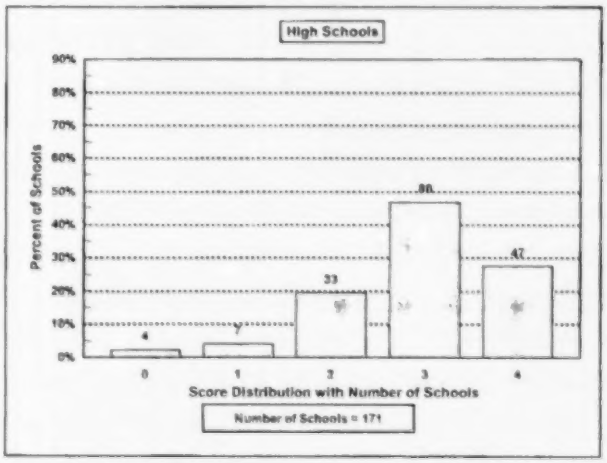
Has sufficient space to accommodate an adequate print, nonprint and electronic collection of materials, seating for instructional and study purposes, technology workstations, circulation, work area and storage.

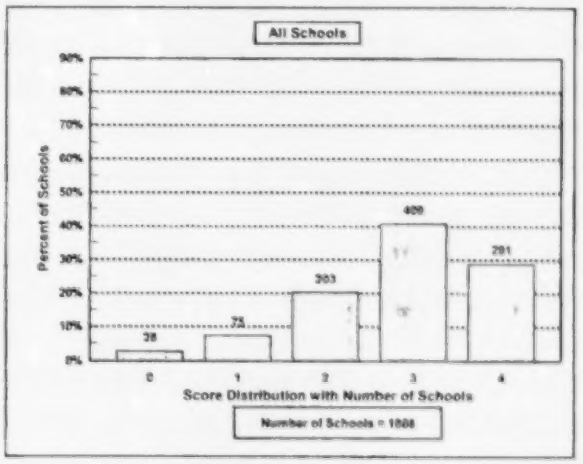
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	20	4	4	28
1	Less than adequate	55	13	7	75
2	Minimally adequate	143	27	33	203
3	Reasonably adequate	268	61	80	409
4	Well above adequate	177	67	47	291
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Library Media Centers	11.3%	9.9%	6.4%	10.2%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Library Media Centers	67.1%	74.4%	74.3%	69.6%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









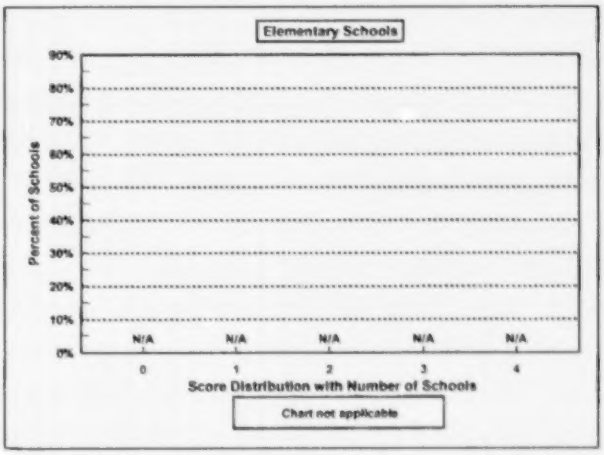
Language Lab(s):

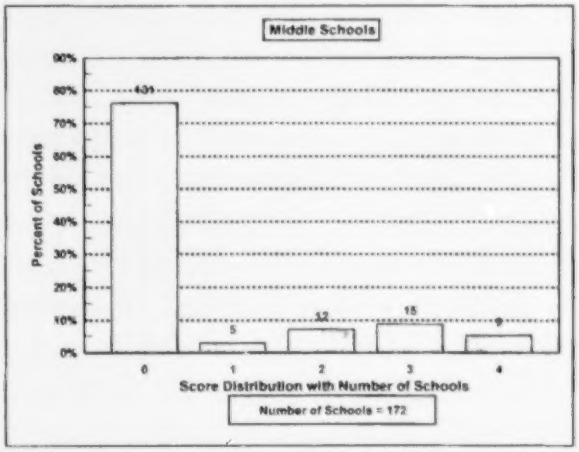
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

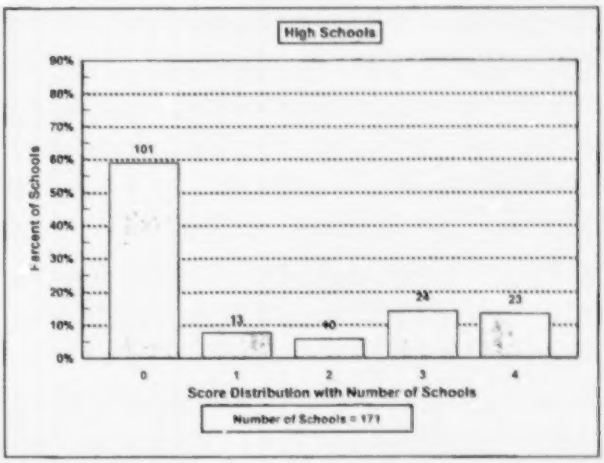
The school has dedicated language lab(s) which are multi-media areas enabling students to communicate through video, voice and data systems, as well as to record on an interactive basis.

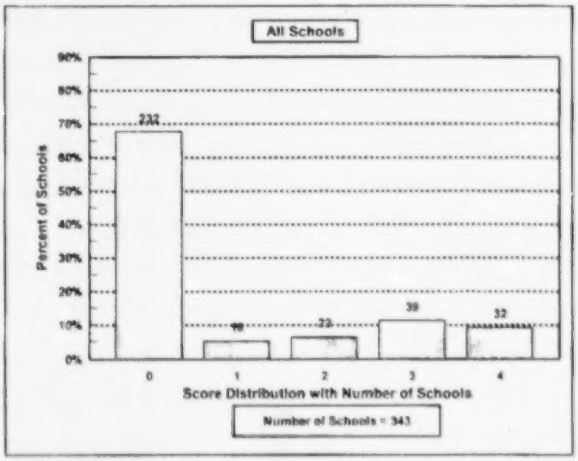
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	N/A	131	101	232
1	Less than adequate	N/A	5	13	18
2	Minimally adequate	N/A	12	10	22
3	Reasonably adequate	N/A	15	24	39
4	Well above adequate	N/A	9	23	32
	Total responses	N/A	172	171	343
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Language Lab(s)	N/A	79.1%	66.7%	72.9%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Language Lab(s)	N/A	14.0%	27.5%	20.7%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









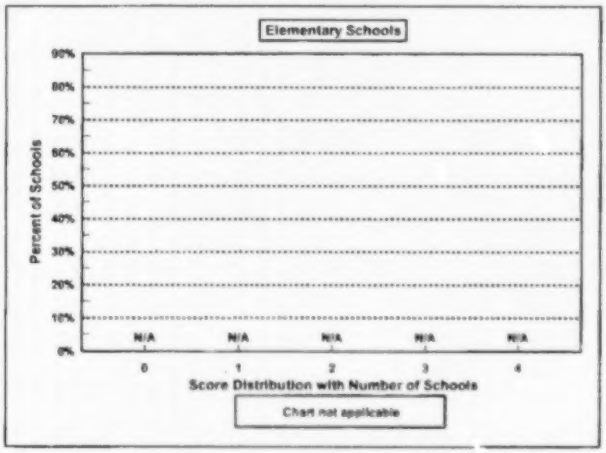
Technical/Career Education:

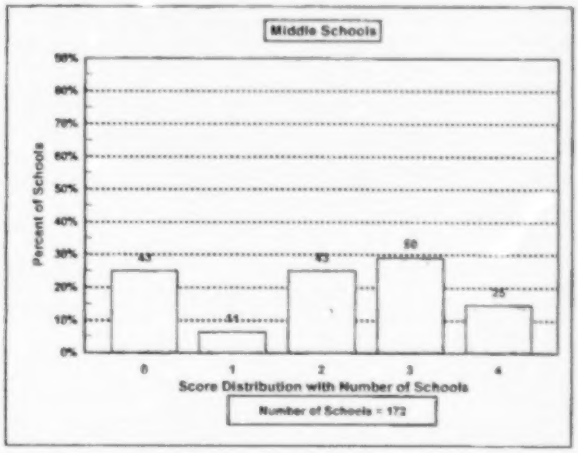
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

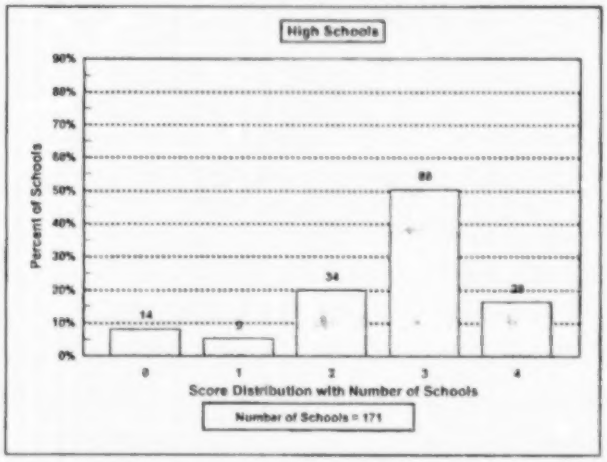
There is sufficient space, wired with voice, video and data technology, to teach and learn the content of technology education for the appropriate grade range. The space, consisting of both classroom and laboratory areas, is equipped with design tools, fabrication tools and materials essential to offering hands-on experiences in transportation, manufacturing, communication and construction systems. Facilities must also include all health and safety systems required by federal, state and local regulations.

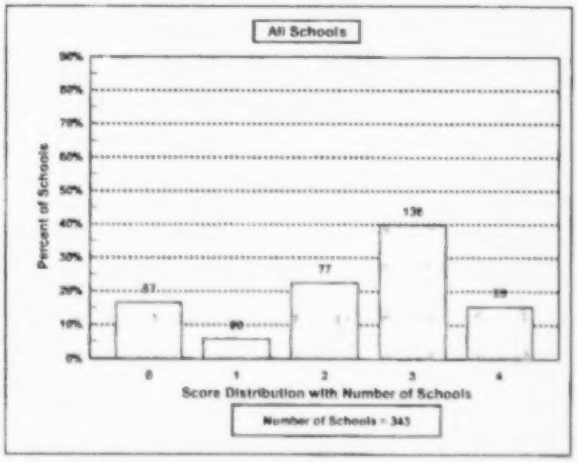
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	N/A	43	14	57
1	Less than adequate	N/A	11	9	20
2	Minimally adequate	N/A	43	34	77
3	Reasonably adequate	N/A	50	86	136
4	Well above adequate	N/A	25	28	53
	Total responses	N/A	172	171	343
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Technical/Career Education	N/A	31.4%	13.5%	22.4%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Technical/Career Education	N/A	43.6%	66.7%	55.1%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









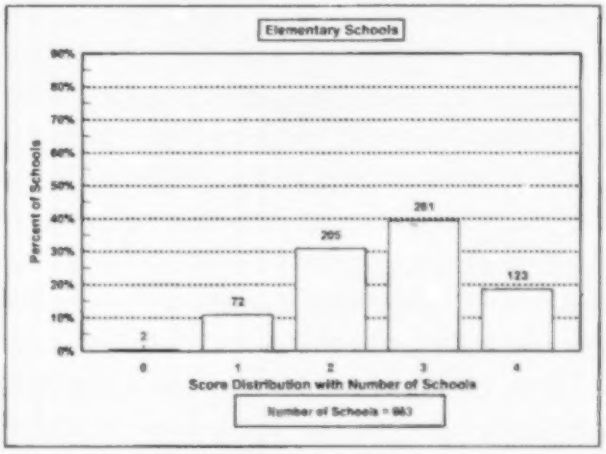
Office/Administrative Space:

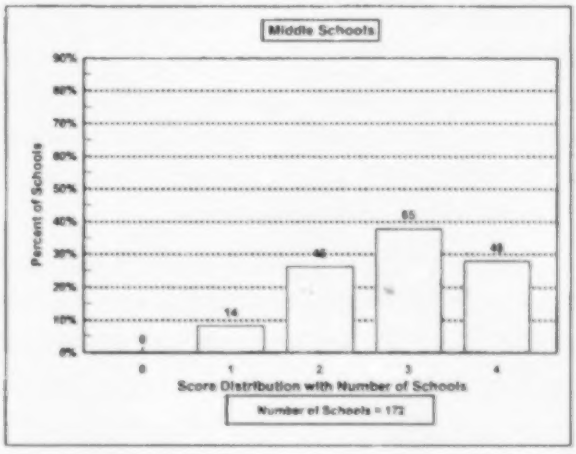
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

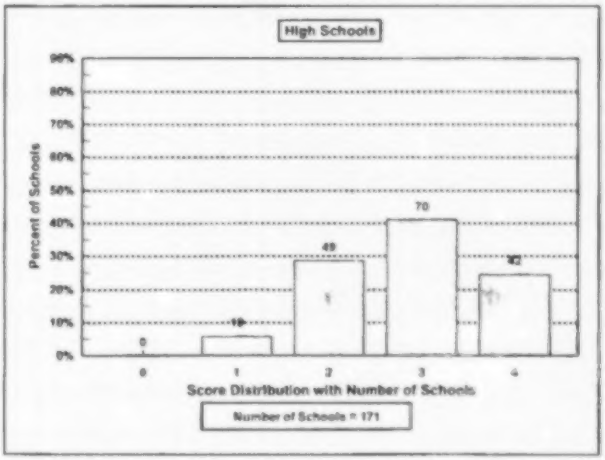
The school contains sufficient space to accommodate the school administration, including an efficient waiting and general office area with close proximity to main entrance of school. Offices are well planned, clean and quiet so as to present a professional educational atmosphere, and include technology infrastructure (e.g. voice, data, video connections).

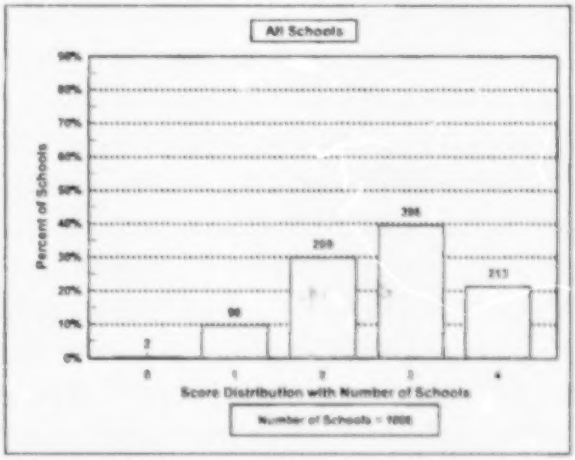
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	2	0	0	2
1	Less than adequate	72	14	10	96
2	Minimally adequate	205	45	49	299
3	Reasonably adequate	261	65	70	396
4	Well above adequate	123	48	42	213
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:					
	Office/Administrative Space	11.2%	8.1%	5.8%	9.7%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:					
	Office/Administrative Space	57.9%	65.7%	65.5%	60.5%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









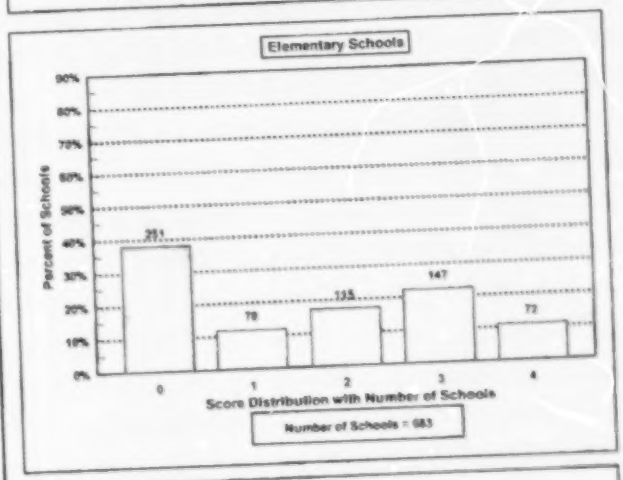
Guidance/Student Services:

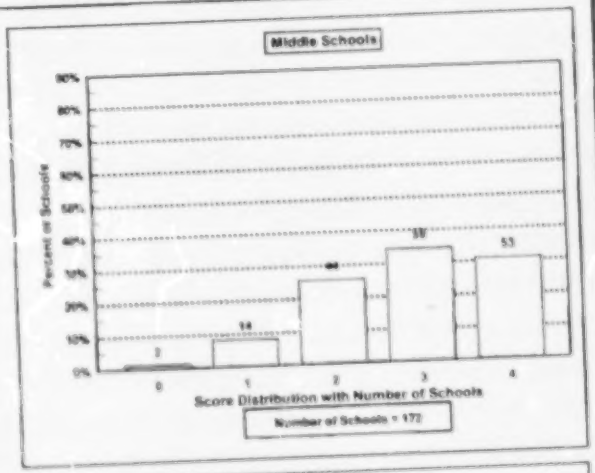
Districts were asked to rate each item on a scale of 0 to 4 as described in the summary table below. The survey instructions included the following description of a facility that can be considered for a rating of 4.

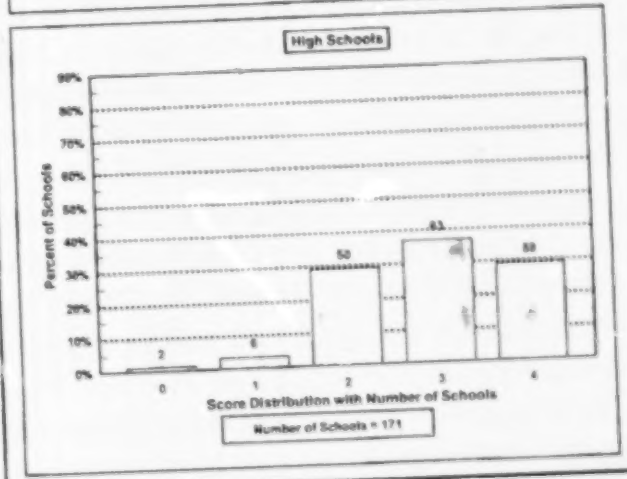
The school maintains guidance offices where counselors can meet with students in a confidential atmosphere that is clean, quiet and uncluttered. Student services, where provided, are in a central area with material presented in an attractive and orderly manner and include technology infrastructure.

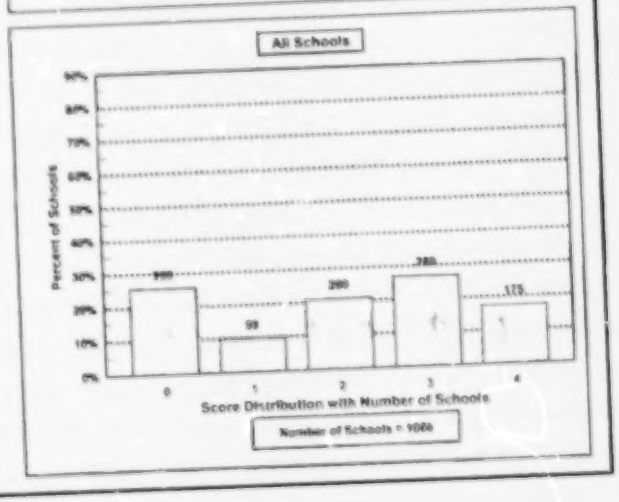
SUMMARY TABLE

Rating	Description	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	All Schools
0	Not included in Facility	251	2	2	255
1	Less than adequate	78	14	6	98
2	Minimally adequate	115	44	50	209
3	Reasonably adequate	147	59	63	269
4	Well above adequate	72	53	50	175
	Total responses	663	172	171	1006
	Percent of responses rated 0 or 1:				
	Guidance/Student Services	49.6%	9.3%	4.7%	35.1%
	All dedicated specialty area items	26.0%	22.9%	13.9%	22.9%
	Percent of responses rated 3 or 4:				
	Guidance/Student Services	33.0%	65.1%	66.1%	44.1%
	All dedicated specialty area items	55.9%	58.9%	68.2%	58.9%









Section 6
Building Size and Capacity

Capacity utilization data is summarized in Tables 6A, 6B and 6C.

School districts have reported enrollment at or above capacity in only 15.1 percent of elementary school buildings – down from 21.6 percent a year before, and 24.4 percent in 1998, the first year of the survey. Well over half (56.6 percent) of elementary schools report at least 10 percent available capacity; an 8 percent increase since 1998.

At the middle school level, the 2001 survey saw a reversal of what had been growing numbers of schools at or above capacity. After rising from 23.9 percent to 31.4 percent between 1998 and 2000, the percentage of middle schools reporting at being at or above capacity dropped slightly to 29.5 percent. Given the timing of the baby boom echo, the passage of these children through elementary and middle schools and into high schools seems to be supported by the capacity shifts.

At the high school level where only 8 percent of schools were at capacity in 1998, the figure is now around 23 percent and may go higher as the full impact of this cohort of children fully reaches high school age.

Naturally these trends are not uniform across all communities statewide. Some areas of the state have experienced significant enrollment growth while others have not. Consequently, some communities may still face crowding in elementary buildings, while there continue to be middle and high school buildings in certain towns that are not yet overcrowded and may not become so in the foreseeable future.

It must also be noted that certain policy directions may have as much to do with future capacity issues as general enrollment trends. Continued growth in prekindergarten programs, class size reduction initiatives, and the potential for universal full-day kindergarten may fully utilize any excess capacity that develops in our elementary schools as general enrollment levels off.

As far as new construction is concerned, there are a greater number of more complex high school projects being authorized – some with costs in excess of $100 million. There is also evidence that these high-cost projects, even after state authorization, are running into significant delays with local funding authorization and planning. Local school boards and building committees are being required to scale back and rethink some of the more costly proposals even as the need for some measure of relief from overcrowding grows.

09/2002

Percentage of Schools with Capacity Utilization at or Above 100% 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 With Cumulative Change

Table 6A

School Type:	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Cumulative Change
Elementary Schools	24.4%	24.2%	21.6%	15.1%	-9.3
Middle Schools	23.9%	28.9%	31.4%	29.5%	5.6
High Schools	8.3%	12.1%	23.3%	23.2%	14.9

09/2002

Percentage of Schools with Less than 100% Capacity Utilization 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 With Cumulative Change

Table 6B

School Type:	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Cumulative Change
Elementary Schools	75.6%	75.8%	78.4%	84.9%	9.3
Middle Schools	76.1%	71.1%	68.6%	70.5%	-5.6
High Schools	91.7%	87.9%	76.7%	76.8%	-14.9

09/2002

Percentage of Schools with Less than 90% Capacity Utilization 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 With Cumulative Change

Table 6C

School Type:	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Cumulative Change
Elementary Schools	48.6%	47.8%	50.5%	56.6%	8.0
Middle Schools	49.1%	50.6%	41.4%	44.3%	-4.8
High Schools	67.5%	61.1%	48.5%	48.1%	-19.4

Section 7
Long-Range Facility Planning, Maintenance and Implementation

In 2001 all districts reported a Long-Range Facilities Program in place as required by statute, even though 23 districts reported inadequate implementation of the program, up from ten in the prior year. This sharp increase may well reflect growing concern in some districts over the failure to secure local funding approval for one or more projects and other delays in school building improvements getting completed. While three of five districts continued to report reasonably adequate or better implementation activities, one in seven now report inadequate progress with their building programs (plans).

Questions regarding facilities maintenance (as opposed to capital improvements) and major equipment repair/replacement revealed the following: 131 districts (78.0 percent) reported a reasonably adequate or better maintenance plan, while 10 (6.0 percent) reported an inadequate plan or no plan. As for implementation, 109 districts (64.9 percent) reported reasonable maintenance plan implementation. Inadequate implementation was indicated by 19 (11.3 percent) districts. These figures are slightly less favorable than in 2000, but still are well above what was reported in 1998, the first year of the survey. For equipment replacement, 102 (60.7 percent) reported a reasonably adequate or better plan, with 19 districts (11.3 percent) indicating inadequate or missing plans, a positive gain of one district.

This data sorted by ERG appears in Tables 7A and 7B.

09/2002

Condition of Facilities - Facility Planning and Implementation
Summary of Responses by
Education Reference Group(ERG)

Table 7A

Education Reference Group (ERG)	Total Districts	Count of Districts Based on Their Responses to Questions Regarding Facility Planning and Maintenance									
		Long Range Facility Plan		Implementation of Plan		Equipment Repair/ Replacement		Building Maintenance Plan		Maintenance Implementation	
		Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing
		Number of Districts		Number of Districts		Number of Districts		Number of Districts		Number of Districts	
A	12	12	0	10	1	11	0	12	0	11	1
B	19	19	0	16	0	14	1	16	0	14	0
C	38	28	0	26	4	25	5	29	4	25	3
D	21	17	0	11	3	11	5	14	1	12	4
E	26	17	0	11	5	17	2	22	1	17	3
F	16	13	0	10	1	9	0	14	1	12	1
G	16	11	0	11	4	8	3	11	2	9	3
H	13	9	0	7	2	5	2	8	0	6	2
I	7	3	0	2	3	2	1	5	1	3	2
Totals	168	129	0	104	23	102	19	131	10	109	19

09/2002

Condition of Facilities - Facility Planning and Implementation
Summary of Responses in Percentages by
Education Reference Group(ERG)

Table 7B

Education Reference Group (ERG)	Total Districts	Percentage of Districts Based on Their Responses to Questions Regarding Facility Planning and Maintenance									
		Long Range Facility Plan		Implementation of Plan		Equipment Repair/ Replacement		Building Maintenance Plan		Maintenance Implementation	
		Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing	Adequate or Better	Inadequate or Missing
		Percentage of Districts		Percentage of Districts		Percentage of Districts		Percentage of Districts		Percentage of Districts	
A	12	100.0%	0.0%	83.3%	8.3%	91.7%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	91.7%	8.3%
B	19	100.0%	0.0%	84.2%	0.0%	73.7%	5.3%	84.2%	0.0%	73.7%	0.0%
C	38	73.7%	0.0%	68.4%	10.5%	65.8%	13.2%	76.3%	10.5%	65.8%	7.9%
D	21	81.0%	0.0%	52.4%	14.3%	52.4%	23.8%	66.7%	4.8%	57.1%	19.0%
E	26	65.4%	0.0%	42.3%	19.2%	65.4%	7.7%	84.6%	3.8%	65.4%	11.5%
F	16	81.3%	0.0%	62.5%	6.3%	56.3%	0.0%	87.5%	6.3%	75.0%	6.3%
G	16	68.8%	0.0%	68.8%	25.0%	50.0%	18.8%	68.8%	12.5%	56.3%	18.8%
H	13	69.2%	0.0%	53.8%	15.4%	38.5%	15.4%	61.5%	0.0%	46.2%	15.4%
I	7	42.9%	0.0%	28.6%	42.9%	28.6%	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%	42.9%	28.6%
Totals	168	76.8%	0.0%	61.9%	13.7%	60.7%	11.3%	78.0%	6.0%	64.9%	11.3%

Appendix A

Education Reference Groups (ERG)

		GROUP A	
Avon	New Canaan	Simsbury	Wilton
Darien	Redding	Weston	Woodbridge
Easton	Ridgefield	Westport	Region 9
		GROUP B	
Bethel	Glastonbury	Marlborough	South Windsor
Brookfield	Granby	Monroe	Trumbull
Cheshire	Greenwich	New Fairfield	West Hartford
Fairfield	Guilford	Newtown	Region 5
Farmington	Madison	Orange	
		GROUP C	
Andover	Essex	Salisbury	Region 7
Barkhamsted	Hebron	Sherman	Region 8
Bethany	Ledyard	Somers	Region 10
Bolton	Litchfield	Suffield	Region 13
Bozrah	Mansfield	Westbrook	Region 14
Canton	New Hartford	Willington	Region 15
Cornwall	Oxford	Woodstock	Region 17
Deep River	Pomfret	Region 4	Region 18
East Granby	Preston	Region 6	Region 19
Ellington	Salem		
		GROUP D	
Berlin	East Lyme	North Haven	Tolland
Branford	Hamden	Old Saybrook	Watertown
Clinton	Newington	Rocky Hill	Wethersfield
Colchester	New Milford	Shelton	Windsor
Columbia	North Branford	Southington	Region 12
East Hampton			
		GROUP E	
Ashford	Cromwell	Lebanon	Sharon
Brooklyn	Eastford	Lisbon	Union
Canaan	East Haddam	Norfolk	Region 1
Canterbury	Franklin	North Stonington	Region 11
Chester	Hampton	Portland	Region 16
Colebrook	Hartland	Scotland	Woodstock Academy
Coventry	Kent		
		GROUP F	
Bloomfield	Milford	Stonington	Wallingford
Enfield	Montville	Stratford	Waterford
Groton	Naugatuck	Torrington	Windsor Locks
Manchester	Seymour	Vernon	Wolcott
		GROUP G	
Chaplin	North Canaan	Sprague	Thompson
East Haven	Plainfield	Stafford	Voluntown
East Windsor	Plainville	Sterling	Winchester
Griswold	Plymouth	Thomaston	Gilbert Academy
		GROUP H	
Ansonia	East Hartford	Norwalk	Stamford
Bristol	Killingly	Norwich	West Haven
Danbury	Meriden	Putnam	Norwich Free Academy
Derby	Middletown		
		GROUP I	
Bridgeport	New Britain	New London	Windham
Hartford	New Haven	Waterbury	

Appendix B

School Facilities Survey Update
ED050U, Revised August 2000
Statutory Ref: C.G.S. 10-220(a)
as amended by P.A. 00-157

State of Connecticut
Department of Education
School Facilities Unit
PO Box 2219
Hartford, CT 06145-2219

Filing date: October 15, 2000

Completed by: _____ Title: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Town: Town code:

School: School code:

Check box if this facility is no longer used for school purposes ☐ Year facility closed: _____

Section 1: Review each item and (1) edit as necessary using EDT system as detailed in enclosed instructions or (2) if filing manually, draw line through any incorrect item and make corrections in red ink.

1 Year of original construction: _____
2 Total square footage: _____
3 Total site acreage: _____
4 Year of last major renovation: _____
5 Number of general classrooms (perm): _____
6 Number of portable classrooms: _____
6a In use since (year): _____
7 Handicapped accessibility (check one):
a) None _____
b) General areas only _____
c) All programs _____
d) All areas _____
8 Major code update since 1988 (Y/N): _____
9 Building capacity: _____

Section 2: Review each item and (1) edit as necessary using EDT system as detailed in enclosed instructions or (2) if filing manually, draw line through any incorrect item and make corrections in red ink.

Building Features: Rating
Dedicated Specialty Areas (Scale: 0 = none, 1 = lowest, 4 = highest Please see instructions for detailed explanation)

10 Art Room(s) _____
11 Music Room(s) _____
12 All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf.) _____
13 Gymnasium _____
14 Auditorium _____
15 Cafeteria _____
16 Outdoor Play Area(s) _____
17 Outdoor Athletic Facilities _____
18 Technology in the Classroom _____
19 Science Lab(s) _____
20 Library Media Center _____
21 Language Lab(s) _____
22 Technical/Career Education _____
23 Office/Administrative Space _____
24 Guidance/Student Services _____

Systems

25 Internal Communications _____
26 Technology Infrastructure _____
27 Air Conditioning _____
28 Heating _____
29 Interior Lighting _____
30 Exterior Lighting _____
31 Roadways and Walks _____
32 Plumbing/Lavatories _____

Building Conditions:
Appearance/Upkeep

33 Building Facade _____
34 Grounds/Landscaping _____
35 Classrooms _____
36 Lavatories/Fountains _____
37 Entrance/Hallways _____
38 Lighting/Fixtures _____
39 Cafeteria _____
40 Code Compliance _____

Facility Planning/Maintenance: (Items 41-43a are district-wide and should be completed by the superintendent.)

41 Long-Range Building Plan _____
41a Plan Implementation _____
42 Equipment Repair/Replacement _____
43 Building Maintenance Plan _____
43a Plan Implementation _____

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Superintendent of Schools)

Appendix C

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Division of Grants Management

Instructions

School Facilities Survey (ED050)

General:

The **ED050** is a blank form which is to be used for filing data on a **facility for which data has not been previously reported**. Please refer to the attached item descriptions and complete the survey accordingly. The completed forms may be mailed or faxed (860-713-7020) to the School Facilities Unit.

To update information currently on file:

Log on to the Department's secured website (http://www.csde.state.ct.us/) and click on the School Construction Grant Management System (SCGMS) option.
(If assistance is necessary in logging into the secured website, please contact our Office of Information Systems at (860) 713-6681. For assistance in accessing the SCGMS, please contact the School Facilities Unit at (860) 713-6480.)

Once into the SCGMS, press the "FACILITIES" button to see a list of the school facilities in your district. Pressing the associated ED050 button by each facility name will display the data currently on record for that facility. Simply make any necessary edits and then press the "Update Changes" button. Edit checks built into the program will require all data fields to be completed. If "errors" are indicated, follow the screen prompts to either supply or correct the appropriate information. Once the status of the form is "Ready to Sign-off", press the "Sign-Off" button, supply the superintendent's code in the box, and then press the "Submit" button.

We require a response for each facility and for the district-wide data even if it is to say there are no changes. We cannot rely on a non-response as indication that no change in facilities has taken place.

Town/School Section:
If a facility is listed that is no longer in active service, simply indicate that the facility is closed and the year it was taken off line. There is no need to provide any additional information on closed facilities.

Section 1: Do not consider planned activities or projects in process unless the work is substantially complete. The State Department of Education (SDE) will use current school facilities project records to account for improvements in progress.

Section 2: Each item in Section 2 of this survey is to be rated on a scale of 1, 2, 3 or 4, where a score of 1 is lowest and 4 is highest. In addition, use a zero (0) to indicate a feature that does not exist at all within your facility.

In general, a score of 1 should mean that a particular feature or system as it exists is inadequate to meet even the minimal needs of the facility.

A score of 2 should indicate a feature or system that meets minimal conditions but is not dependable, breaks down frequently, may be cramped or has other limitations. In other words, it is a feature or a system that would require some upgrading to be considered adequate.

A score of 3 should mean a feature or a system that reasonably accommodates the needs of the school, is most often in good condition, and generally meets some, but not all, of the characteristics of an excellent accommodation.

A score of 4 should be reserved for items that meet all the reasonable needs of the facility pertaining to that item. We have provided a description of what we would expect each item to include to qualify for a rating of 4. In many cases, the description includes one or more relatively minor enhancements to what otherwise is a good feature or system. This is done intentionally to convey the idea that a 4 rating should be used only for features or systems that go well beyond adequate. We would not anticipate many schools receiving ratings of 4 in most categories unless the facility is new, has undergone extensive renovations, or has been updated and maintained at a very high level over the years. It is more likely that good facilities will have some 4 ratings, but mostly 3s. We would tend to view a facility with an average rating on all items of around 3 as a quality facility.

Essentially, the scale translates into a rating of 4 = excellent, 3 = good, 2 = fair, 1 = poor, and 0 = missing. If there are any special or dedicated purpose rooms (art, music, science lab, etc.) that are not currently being used for their designed purpose, please indicate a '0' in the section which refers to that once dedicated space.

Section 1:

1. Year of original construction:
   Use the year that all, or most, of the facility that is used for classrooms was originally constructed.

2. Total square footage:
   Indicate the total facility square footage **exclusive of portable classrooms**. Also, include floor area that may be allocated to district central administrative offices.

3. Total site acreage:
   Indicate the total acreage allocated to this facility. In situations where several schools share a common site, a portion of the total site acreage should be allocated to each school.

4. Year of last major renovation:
   Indicate the year in which you completed the last major renovation of the existing facility. If a new wing was added but there was no major renovation of the existing facility as part of the addition project, do not use this date.

5. **Number of general classrooms (permanent):**
   Indicate the number of general classrooms that may be used for general classroom instruction. Do not include specialty rooms such as science labs, choral rooms, gymnasium, auditorium, etc. This item was not included on the 1993 survey and therefore will need to be completed in all cases.

6. Number of portable classrooms:
   Please provide the number of classrooms housed in portable (a.k.a. relocatable or temporary) buildings. This is not necessarily the number of portable buildings, as multiple rooms may be in a single building.

6a. In use since (year):
   Please provide the year in which most of the portable buildings were installed.

7. Handicapped accessibility (check one):
   None: The facility has essentially no access for persons with disabilities.

   General areas: General building access is available to the main offices, auditorium and similar areas. However, at least some academic programs offered at the facility are not accessible to persons with disabilities.

   All programs: Although all *areas* of the facility may not be accessible, accommodations have been made so that all *programs* may be offered in accessible areas.

   All areas: All areas of the facility are accessible to persons with disabilities.

8. Major code update since 1988 (y/n):
   Has the facility undergone an upgrade since 1988 to bring the facility into *full conformity* with the codes (building, fire, ADA, OSHA, health.) Projects to address partial conformity do not qualify.

9. Building capacity:
   Please provide the capacity of the facility. Present capacity may differ significantly from the original designed capacity due to changes in use and other modifications over the years. Respondents should be able to explain the derivation of the capacity figure provided.

Section 2:

Building Features:
Dedicated Specialty Areas

10. Art Room(s):
    There is a complete art program with a dedicated art room to accommodate either individual or small group projects and specialized equipment The lighting is brighter than in most other instructional spaces, and water and sinks are provided. There is adequate storage for supplies and ongoing projects.

11. Music Room(s):
    There is separate dedicated space designed for the music program, both choral and instrumental, with acoustic treatment. There is adequate storage space for sheet music and instruments, along with practice rooms.

12. All-Purpose Room (Gym/Aud/Caf):
    There is a general purpose room that serves as any combination of gymnasium, auditorium and cafeteria. If there is such as room, you must answer with a '0' for any dedicated room listed below that is served by the all-purpose room.

13. Gymnasium(s):
    The school has gymnasium facilities with sufficient space to accommodate equal programs. Middle and high schools should also include shower and locker facilities. Adequate equipment for the appropriate grade range is available, along with sufficient storage space.

14. Auditorium:
    The school has an auditorium with fixed seating for at least one-half of the enrollment, with the capacity to do theater productions as well as vocal and instrumental performances.

15. Cafeteria:
    There is a cafeteria that seats at least one-third of the enrollment (for elementary schools) or one-fourth of the enrollment (for middle and high schools). Kitchen, serving and seating areas are well equipped and provide a comfortable dining environment.

16. Outdoor Play Areas (Elementary Schools):
    There is up-to-date equipment in safe condition, age appropriate, isolated from traffic, well drained, and of sufficient size to meet school program and enrollment. Play area may be municipal if adjacent to the school.

17. Outdoor Athletic Facilities (Middle and High Schools):
    The playing fields meet the requirements of a complete interscholastic athletic program and are maintained in playing condition with adequate spectator and competitor accommodations. Athletic facilities may be those of the municipality and may be in a separate location from the school, except that off-site facilities should not be rated a 4 unless they are complemented by on-site facilities that properly support physical education instruction and intramural sports.

18. Technology in the Classroom:
    Technology in use in all classrooms with multiple workstations, Internet access, LAN/WAN in place. Focus is on the equipment, software and system access in place in the classroom. Stand-alone computer lab warrants a 2 rating only.

19. Science Lab(s):
    The school has sufficient teaching and laboratory space, equipped for biological, physical and earth science programs (elementary schools) or for earth science, biology, chemistry and physics (middle and high schools). Adequate prep rooms including appropriate water and gas fixtures and proper storage for hazardous materials with appropriate ventilation.

20. Library Media Center:
    Has sufficient space to accommodate an adequate print, nonprint and electronic collection of materials, seating for instructional and study purposes, technology workstations, circulation, work area and storage.

21. Language Lab(s):
    The school has dedicated language lab(s) which are multi-media areas enabling students to communicate through video, voice and data systems, as well as to record on an interactive basis.

22. Technical/Career Education:
    There is sôfficient space, wired with voice, video and data technology, to teach and learn the content of technology education for the appropriate grade range. The space, consisting of both classroom and laboratory areas, is equipped with design tools, fabrication tools and materials essential to offering hands-on experiences in transportation, manufacturing, communication and construction systems. Facilities must also include all health and safety systems required by federal, state and local regulations.

23. Office/Administrative Space:
    The school contains sufficient space to accommodate the school administration, including an efficient waiting and general office area with close proximity to main entrance of school. Offices are well planned, clean and quiet so as to present a professional educational atmosphere and include technology infrastructure (e.g. voice, data, video connections).

24. Guidance/ Student Services:
    The school maintains guidance offices where counselors can meet with students in a confidential atmosphere that is clean, quiet and uncluttered. Student services, where provided, are in a central area with material presented in an attractive and orderly manner and include technology infrastructure.

Systems

25. Internal Communications:
    The facility has an intercom system enabling communication with all academic and administrative areas of the school individually and collectively. All classrooms have capacity to communicate with the principal's office and have access to an outside telephone line.

26. Technology Infrastructure:
    Complete facility access to voice, video and data transmission including all classrooms and administrative areas. Appropriate wiring for multiple computer workstations and other electronic equipment in all program areas. Focus is on facility capacity to accommodate state-of-the-art hardware and access to Internet, etc., even if not presently installed and in use.

27. Air Conditioning:
    All instructional and student support service areas are air conditioned, as well as administrative areas. System works to keep the building comfortable throughout the cooling season. (If only administrative offices are air conditioned, this category should be responded to with a '0'.)

28. Heating:
    Fully operational heating system with zoned controls that allow for regulation in each classroom and office area. System works to keep the building comfortable throughout the heating season.

29. Interior Lighting:
    All instructional areas are well lit with an appropriate combination of natural and artificial light. All hallway, lavatory and other common areas have appropriate lighting that is consistently in working order.

30. Exterior Lighting:
    Exterior facade, walkways, roadways and parking areas have proper lighting that provides complete coverage of these areas for nighttime use. There are no dark or unlit areas around the perimeter of the building.

31. Roadways and Walks:
    All walks and paved areas are free of potholes and caved-in areas, are properly marked for traffic control and pedestrian safety, and are graded for handicapped accessibility.

32. Plumbing/ Lavatories:
    Plumbing is up to modern standards throughout the building with sufficient lavatories for students and staff, shower facilities in the locker rooms, sinks as needed in specialty classrooms, kitchen areas, drinking fountains, maintenance areas including external water supply fixtures.

Building Conditions:
Appearance / Upkeep

33. Building Facade:
    The facility is in sound condition, and there are no broken windows. The exterior is clean, bright, neat in appearance and free of graffiti, damage and vandalism. Instances of graffiti, damage and vandalism are promptly corrected.

34. Grounds/Landscaping:
    Areas are routinely kept free of litter and debris, lawns and shrubs are regularly trimmed, and all lawns/grass areas are fully covered. There should be some provision for green space and plantings that are appropriate to the site.

35. Classrooms:
    The classrooms are adequate in number and size for the programs offered. All casework, ceilings, walls and floor coverings are clean, neat and without damage. All windows are operable, and the rooms are regularly cleaned. There should be ample closet/shelf space for storage of instructional materials, and bulletin boards, chalkboards, etc. sufficient to display student work and other materials for instructional use.

36. Lavatories/Fountains:
    There is an adequate supply of safe drinking water, and all fountains are operational. All lavatories are clean, partitions, doors and fixtures are intact and functional to provide privacy. Adequate supplies are provided.

37. Entrance/Hallways:
    Main entrance is highly visible to visitors. Entry way is attractive, clean, neat and welcomes people to the school. The area is free of graffiti, damage and vandalism. Lockers are uniform and functioning. All surface coverings (walls, ceilings and floors) are clean, neat and uniform.

38. Lighting/Fixtures:
    Fixtures, including emergency lighting, are working and, when necessary, are repaired without undo delay. The fixtures are energy efficient and are controlled by an energy management control system.

39. Cafeteria:
The cafeteria is clean, neat, bright and free from graffiti, damage and vandalism.

40. Code Compliance:
All programs, including outdoor athletic facilities and play areas, are fully accessible to persons with disabilities. The entire facility is in full compliance with State building, fire, OSHA and health codes. There are automatic fire sprinklers throughout the facility. (Although not mandated by code, sprinklers and detection devices would be a significant component of a 4 rating on this item.)

Questions 41-43a are district-wide and should be completed by the superintendent.

Facility Planning / Maintenance

41. Long-Range Building Plan:
District-wide plan that is complete and up to date, projects out at least five years, and has been recognized by both the town and the school board as the official plan.

41a. Plan Implementation:
Plan implementation is on schedule with necessary projects underway or imminent. Needed funds are most always approved.

42. Equipment Repair/Replacement:
District has a written plan for the repair and replacement of equipment based on useful life and other appropriate factors. Plan covers all major plant and operational equipment, is most often followed in the fiscal planning of the board, and is most often funded at a reasonable level.

43. Building Maintenance Plan:
District has a written building maintenance plan which includes general cleaning schedules, major cleaning schedules, service system maintenance schedules for all major building components including roofs. Plan takes into account fiscal cycles and prioritizes activities to accommodate funding constraints.

43a. Plan Implementation:
High level of implementation with reasonable funding in each annual board budget and town appropriation.

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